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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1058)

Name of Candidate	Deepak Kumar Dubey		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	74631
Center	ORN	Date	25/08/18

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें **बीस** प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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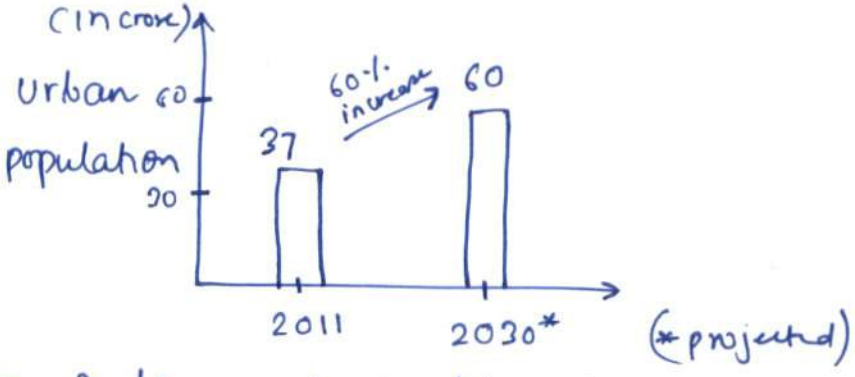
Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks. 12.5X20=250

1. While on one hand, urbanization is creating potential for social integration and economic opportunity, on the other hand, it is also leading to segregation and exclusion based on socio-economic status. Examine the paradox in context of Indian cities. What steps can be taken to make urban space truly inclusive?

जहाँ एक ओर शहरीकरण सामाजिक एकीकरण और आर्थिक अवसर की संभावनाएं सृजित कर रहा है, वहीं दूसरी ओर यह सामाजिक-आर्थिक अवस्थिति पर आधारित अलगाव और अपवर्जन को भी बढ़ावा दे रहा है। भारतीय शहरों के संदर्भ में इस विरोधाभास का परीक्षण कीजिए। शहरी क्षेत्रों को वास्तविक रूप से समावेशी बनाने हेतु क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

Recent decades have shown a distinctive shift towards urbanization in India. As per 2011 census, 31% of the population was living in urban area, and the proportion is poised to increase further.



However Indian urbanization is characterized by 2 sets of paradoxes

1) Potential for Economic opportunities + social integration

→ Higher population ~~increased~~ working in tertiary sector → higher per capita income
→ higher productivity

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→ Higher Social Mobility
- → Lower caste and religion based discrimination
- → Opportunity to progress by own hard work
- → Meritocratic work places

→ Lower Poverty and Deprivation
- → variety of employment avenues
- → Dual-working families leading to diversification of income
- → More opportunities for women

→ Inclusive Living Spaces
- → Income main determinant in where one lives, not caste
- → lower barriers to acquisition of real estate and assets by lower castes

2) Segregation and Exclusion based on Socio-economic status

→ Ghettoization of Urban Space
- → Poor live in slums with poor provision of basic services (hygiene, security, policing, water supply, education, hospitals)
- → Rich live in gated societies

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→ Subtle caste/racial discrimination persists

- → Inability of certain castes and people of certain religious denominations to get places on rent in certain societies
- → Discrimination against 'outsiders'
  - eg 2012 exodus of North-Eastern migrants from Bangalore
  - 2014 murder of Nido Tania in Delhi
- → Cases of poor people being denied entry into malls (Mumbai, Gurugram)

Steps needed to make urban spaces inclusive

- Redevelopment of slums (Pradhan Mantri Awas yojana focuses on slum redevelopment)
- Strict action against people practicing caste & religion based discrimination (eg against housing societies)
- Enforcing economically weaker section (EWS) quota under RTE, 2009
- Provision of better, formal, higher-income wage employment
- non-discriminatory access to hospitals, schools, malls
- behavioural change communication
- More 'green, open' spaces for recreation

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2. The achievement of Sustainable Development Goals depends crucially on, among other factors, formulating development strategies that reflect the current and future population dynamics. Discuss.

सतत विकास लक्ष्यों की प्राप्ति अन्य कारकों के साथ-साथ विकास रणनीति के निर्माण पर, जो वर्तमान और भविष्य की जनसंख्या गतिकी को दर्शाती है, पर अत्यधिक निर्भर करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 goals and 169 targets agreed to by all UN member states to drive the developmental agenda of the world in 2015-30 period.

The achievement of SDGs depends crucially on formulating development strategies that reflect current and future population dynamics.

Current Population Dynamics are characterized by

→ 7.6 Billion Global population (2017)
→ variety of demographic indicators differences
  → Ageing population in Developed nations (Japan, Western Europe)
  → Young population in Developing world (India, Africa, Eastern Europe)
→ High growth rate in South Asia and

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Africa, low in the western world

Future Population Dynamics will be characterized by

→ Ageing populations
→ Increasing ~~pop~~ dependency on shrinking workforce
→ Slow population growth
→ Better gender balance
→ Population stabilizing around year 2050 at about 9.6 Billion and declining thereafter
→ Predominantly urban population

The ~~developing~~ development strategies must take both realities into account

1) Current Dynamics

- Faster skilling of young populations to reap demographic dividend
- Increasing provision of basic and higher education
- Focus on creating stable and formal wage employments
- Increasing women participation in workforce

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→ Provision of Housing, healthcare, mobility and education to urbanizing populations

2) Future Dynamics

→ Provision of social security to ageing population
- → Public & Private Pensions
- → Universal basic income

→ Increasing productivity to counter shrinking workforce
- → adoption of newer technologies like AI, Internet of Things, 3D printing, flexible manufacturing

→ Provision of unemployment allowance

→ Lifelong, continuous learning and skilling

→ Bridging digital divide

→ Stemming increase in income and wealth inequality

→ Sustainable and clean energy.

Thus policies must reflect the needs of both current and future population dynamics.

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3. Globalization is a double-edged sword, which on one hand ensures economic growth but on the other hand, assaults national sovereignty, erodes local culture and threatens economic and social stability. Critically examine the statement in context of Indian society.

वैश्वीकरण एक दोधारी तलवार है, जो एक ओर आर्थिक संवृद्धि को सुनिश्चित करता है, किन्तु दूसरी ओर यह राष्ट्रीय संप्रभुता पर हमला करता है, स्थानीय संस्कृति को विनष्ट करता है तथा आर्थिक और सामाजिक स्थिरता के लिए खतरा उत्पन्न करता है। भारतीय समाज के संदर्भ में इस कथन का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

Globalization is the process of higher integration of different national economies with one another. It is characterized by
- → global value chains
- → workforce mobility
- → faster communications and transport
- → Increasing global trade
- → Mixing of different cultures, giving rise to a more cosmopolitan urban environment
- → Consumerism and local adaptation of foreign culture (glocalization or globally local adaptations)

Globalization has been termed a double edged sword as it

→ Ensures economic growth
- → Higher FDI into developing countries
- → Production for exports
- → job creation

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→ Increasing incomes, with multiplier effects
→ Better managerial methods and production processes leading to efficient production

→ Assaults national sovereignty
→ Accession to multilateral regimes (WTO, proposed RCEP)
→ Disputes taken for international arbitration (Vodafone transfer pricing case)
→ Pressure ~~for~~ on amending IP laws that favour investors

→ Erodes local culture
→ Adoption of 'foreign' ideas through exposure by media
→ Influence of foreign culture on dressing, food etc.

→ Threatens socio-economic stability
→ Inflow of FII or 'Hot Money' that can leave at will creating volatility in markets
→ External debt increases risk
→ Globalization Backlash
→ In western nations, by those who

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feel left out of fruits of globalization
→ In developed countries due to widening rich-poor chasm

However, in the case of Indian society, the positives far outweigh negatives

→ Post-LPG reforms era characterized by more than $500 Billion of FDI inflow that has created millions of jobs
→ Faster economic growth (7% on an average since 1991)
→ Surplus foreign exchange reserves (430 Billion USD)
→ Integration with global supply chains bringing efficiency
→ Boom in IT sector ⇒ seeds of transformation to a knowledge economy

While there are negatives like the ones mentioned earlier, we need selective integration of foreign culture, protecting national interest through better treaties and by increasing wealth/income redistribution.

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4. Is the Indian notion of secularism, based on uniform respect for all religions by the state and separation of religion from public institutional practices, adequate to ensure a secular state? Discuss.

क्या राज्य द्वारा सभी धर्मों के प्रति एकसमान आदर और सार्वजनिक संस्थागत प्रक्रियाओं से धर्म के पृथक्करण संबंधी धर्मनिरपेक्षता की भारतीय अवधारणा एक धर्मनिरपेक्ष राज्य को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु पर्याप्त है? चर्चा कीजिए।

Indian notion of secularism is based upon equal respect for all religions, as contained in Articles 25-28 of constitution. This is distinct from western notions of secularism that advocates entire separation of church from state (eg France, USA)

Indian secularism is characterized by the following practical examples

→ Religious holidays → Public holidays on festivals of all major religions

→ NO ban on display of religious symbols in public places, classrooms and even offices
(unlike France where Burqa was sought to be banned)

→ Religious instruction permitted in educational institutions with conditionalities

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→ Freedom of religious denominations to establish their own educational institutions

→ NO tax on propagation of religion

~~Indi~~ Uniform respect for all religions and separation of religion from public institutional practices in essential for India because:

1) Indian society is more diverse than western countries in terms of religions
   → 6 major organized religions
   → Multiplicity of sects within religions
2) Many religion and sect-based cleavages exist
3) Indian society is deeply religious and it is often difficult to separate religion from public life
4) Religion is a great source of morality and ethics, and separating it totally from state may deprive the state of the benefit from ~~to~~ religious texts that promote harmony & ethics in public life.

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However, there are some pitfalls too:-

→ Use of religious symbols and pandering to religious feelings to get votes by politicians

→ Religion based identities and lobbies in civil servants

→ Non separation of religion from secular affairs like marriage and divorce ⇒ leading to demand for uniform civil code under Article 44.

Thus, while this approach to secularism has its pitfalls, it is essential due to unique Indian conditions. The separation of religion from public institutional practices provides a proper balance and it should be further strengthened.

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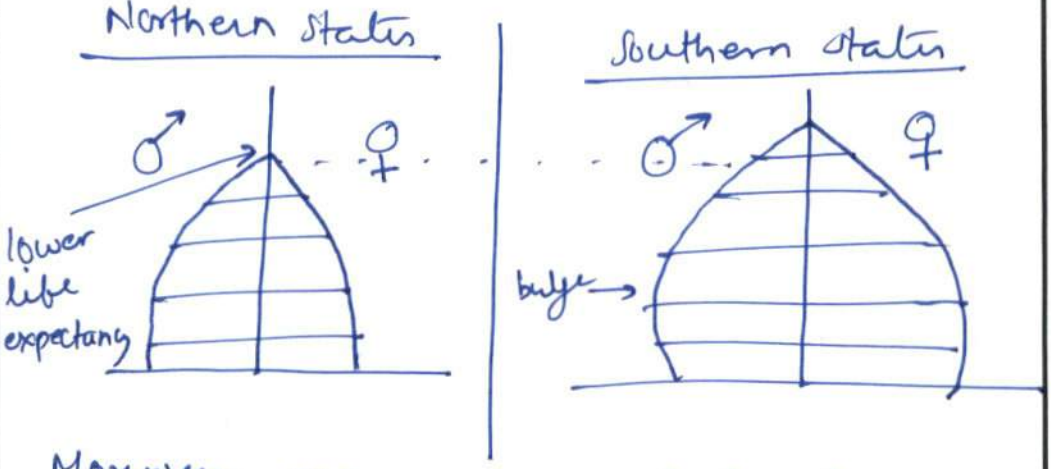
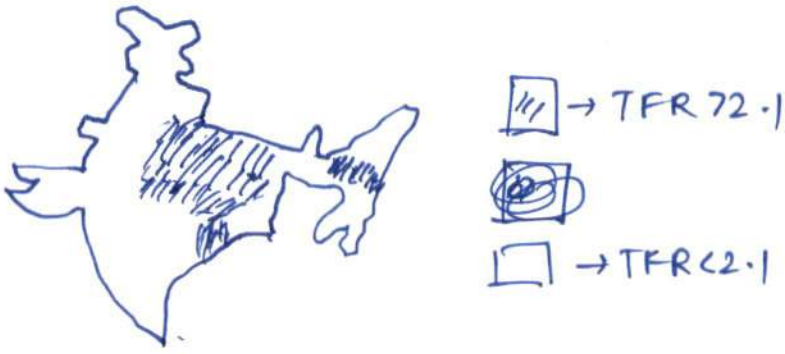
5. There is an emerging pattern of a predominantly youthful north and a maturing south and west. Analyze the possible implications of such a demographic divergence on policy-making in India.

एक युवा प्रधान उत्तर तथा एक प्रौढ़ दक्षिण एवं पश्चिम का एक उभरता हुआ प्रतिरूप दृष्टिगत हो रहा है। भारत में नीति-निर्माण में इस तरह के जननांकिकीय भिन्नता (डेमोग्राफिक डाइवर्जेंस) के संभावित निहितार्थों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

While Indian demography still remains youthful, with median age of Indians currently at about 27 years, there has been a divergence in the demography of Norther and Southern states.



Moreover, many southern states have already achieved replacement level of Total Fertility ratio.



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Some Implication of Demographic Divergence on policy making are as follows

1) Central Level

→ Financial Devolution to states by Finance Commission under Article 280

→ Demand by southern states for greater devolution.

→ Demand that devolution be based upon older population (1971 census) rather than recent census (2011)

→ Skilling Programmes

→ Northern states may demand higher allocation due to younger population

→ Flexibility in Centrally sponsored Schemes

→ Eg NHPS, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan. would have to be designed so that centre provides its ~~allocation~~ share and states can adapt these programmes as per their unique demographic needs.

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2) State level

→ Northern states
→ More focus on → primary healthcare
→ education
→ child nutrition
→ Maternity care
→ early childhood development
→ Demand for special packages to address higher developmental challenges

→ Southern states
→ More Focus on → Social Security
- Insurance
- pensions
→ Tertiary healthcare & palliative care
→ Continuous learning and upskilling
→ Demand for special package if finance commission grants insufficient

Thus divergence in demography presents unique challenges for both states and centres and they need to work together to develop policies that are just and fair to both the group of states.

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6. Given the significant increase in urban population, it is important that the nature and extent of urban poverty should be recognised and adequately addressed by public policy in India. Discuss in the context of problems faced by urban poor and the government programmes and initiatives taken to deal with them.

शहरी जनसंख्या में सार्थक वृद्धि को देखते हुए यह महत्वपूर्ण है कि भारत में लोक नीति द्वारा शहरी गरीबी की प्रकृति और विस्तार को पहचाना एवं पर्याप्त रूप से संबोधित किया जाना चाहिए। शहरी गरीबों द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं और उनसे निपटने हेतु सरकार के कार्यक्रमों और पहलों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

India's urban population has more than doubled between 1991 and 2011 and is projected to increase from 37 crores in 2011 to about 60 crores in 2030. However increasing urbanization is characterized by widening wealth and income between the rich and poor. The problems that urban poor face are multi-dimensional :-

1) Housing
- Lack of adequate housing in cities
- Proliferation of slums and urban ghettos that exist side-by-side with high rises and gated societies

2) Hygiene
- Poor living conditions in urban slums and a lack of hygiene
- Low sanitation coverage

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3) Security

- High crime rate in poorer urban areas
- lack of safety of women and children
- Increasing incidences of rape

4) Access to Education & Health

- Poorly maintained and staffed public facilities
- High cost of private education and healthcare facilities
- low health insurance penetration
- Higher disease burden

5) Income security and social security

- Informal sector work environments
  - → as security guards
  - → as auto drivers
  - → as domestic helps
  - → in small shops
- low, unstable income
- wage volatility
- Low penetration of pension products
- Outside the EPFO net

6) Few Recreational Spaces

- lack of green and open spaces
- lack of playgrounds for children

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The Govt. has taken various steps to deal with the problems of urban poor

1) Housing
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana
  - Slum Redevelopment
  - Interest-rate subsidy on housing

2) Hygiene
- Swachh Bharat (Urban)
  - Community Toilets
  - Door-to-Door waste collection

3) Security
- Nirbhaya Fund
- Community Policing
  - Mahila Police Volunteers (Haryana)
  - Operation Veerangana (Delhi)

4) Education and Health
- National Health Protection scheme to cover 10 crore families
- RTE Act ⇒ 25% seats in private schools for EWS

5) Income and Social Security
- Atal Pension Yojana
- PMSBY and PMJJBY
- Skill India Mission & Make in India
- Start up and Stand up India

6) Recreational spaces → Smart Cities Mission

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7. It is assumed that urbanization along with industrialization would induce certain essential changes in the caste-based system of stratification. In this context, discuss how the caste system has continued to persist and exert its influence in urban social life.

यह कल्पना की जाती है कि औद्योगीकरण के साथ-साथ शहरीकरण, जाति-आधारित व्यवस्था के स्तरीकरण में कुछ आवश्यक बदलाव को अभिप्रेरित करेगी। इस संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए कि कैसे जाति व्यवस्था शहरी सामाजिक जीवन में निरंतर बनी हुयी है और अपने प्रभाव को कायम रखे हुए है।

It is assumed that urbanization and industrialization aid in the reduction of stratification in the urban society. It was this assumption, combined with what he termes as 'Feudalism in the villages' that Dr. Ambedkar urged dalits to leave villages and move to cities.

Urbanization and industrialization do contribute to decreasing caste based stratification to some extent

→ Caste identities are not material in modern workplaces, it is the merit that counts

→ Wealth is the main determinant of social status in cities (mostly)

→ People eat from the same plates and drink from the same glasses in urban hotels & restaurants. These things are still not prevalent in some

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rural pockets

→ In accessing housing, caste based distinctions are reducing

→ The youth of the cities is more open minded and aspirational and caste identities are not material for him

→ Public Places → Temples, Malls, Gardens, Beaches, Restaurants are open to all without distinction. The same cannot be said about most villages

→ Rule of law has taken deeper roots in urban areas. Informal bodies like Khap Panchayats passing caste-based dictates are not there in urban areas

However in many cases, caste based distinctions have continued to persist :-

→ Marriages, even in urban areas, continue to be guided by caste-matches.

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→ Caste based housing societies still continue and they refuse to give house on rent to people from another caste/religion

→ Informal, caste-based groupings are prevalent even in newer workplaces

→ Informal bias in employment opportunities based upon caste still exists in certain employments

→ Cleanliness workers are predominantly of lower castes in urban areas

→ People often check the caste of domestic help, drivers etc.

→ Caste-based social networks are stronger in upper caste and help the network members in many ways (entrepreneurship, references etc.)

Thus it can be said that while caste based stratification has indeed reduced in urban areas, it has not ended entirely.

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8. Decline in child sex ratio, caused by various reasons, is a serious problem with severe socio-economic, demographic and cultural implications. Discuss in the context of India.

विभिन्न कारणों से बाल लिंगानुपात में गिरावट, विकट सामाजिक-आर्थिक, जननांकिकीय और सांस्कृतिक निहितार्थों के साथ, एक गंभीर समस्या है। भारतीय संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

In the recent years child sex Ratio, defined as the ratio of females per 1000 males in 0-6 years age group, has continued to decline. Moreover this has happened when the overall sex ratio of the population has improved.

	2001	2011	change
Sex Ratio	933	941	+8↑
Child Sex Ratio	927	918	-9↓

(*) source : census data

(*) The reasons are numerous

- → Explicit preference as well as meta preference for the male child in all sections of society
- → Girl child seen as a 'burden' in many areas of country
  - → High Dowry
  - → Patrilocality → Girls going to live with in-laws after marriage

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Patrilineality :- Sons inherit property and daughters do not have equal rights (even though law disallows)
→ Poor women safety in country
→ Patriarchy :- Male dominance in socio-economic affairs of society
→ Social customs and norms :- Only sons can do certain rituals

However it has severe consequences

1) Socio-Economic

~~→ Increasing number of men who remain unmarried~~

→ "Bride trafficking" :- Recent incidents have shown such cases of movements from West Bengal & Odisha to Haryana
→ Increasing assault on women and decreasing women safety
→ low women participation in workforce
→ weakening voice of women in decision making

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Demographic

- Gender Imbalance in society
- ~~On the positive side~~, It may result to lower dowry, but this is hardly a solid justification
- Increasing number of unmarried men

Cultural

- May further boost patriarchy as voice of women in decision making decreases
- Poor ethoes and morals creeping into the culture as female infanticide in now widespread, particularly in Northern India
- Depriving the Indian Society of creative talents, energies and contribution of girls who are never born

Thus, due to various ill-effects of declining CSR, it must be checked by further strengthening Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao & by Behavioural change communication.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. The surge in urban crimes is a grim reminder of the unplanned & rapid nature of urbanization in India. Discuss. Also, list measures that can be taken to tackle the issue of urban crimes in India.

शहरी अपराधों में बढ़ोतरी भारत में शहरीकरण की अनियोजित और तीव्र प्रकृति की विकटता का एक सूचक है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में शहरी अपराधों के मुद्दे से निपटने के लिए अपनाये जा सकने वाले उपायों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

The Unplanned and rapid nature of urbanization has led to a surge in urban crimes in India. Moreover, the increase in crime against women and children has been more pronounced.

Unplanned & Rapid Urbanization helps in crime increase in the following ways

→ Increase in slums
- Hard to police
- Easy place for anti-social elements to hide and operate out of
- Lower safety and privacy

→ Increase in stress in urban life
- Fast paced life
- Poor recreational facilities
- Poor work-life balance
- Crowded public places and public transport
- Constant noise pollution

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Inefficient Policing
- Police has not grown in numbers in line with urban population
- Poor policing and intelligence infrastructure

→ Greater Vulnerability of Children, aged & women
- Poor social support structures
- Dual income families, with no parent present to supervise children
- Influence of drugs, alcohol and poor friend circle on children

Measures needed to control urban crimes

- Planned development
  - Redevelopment of slums
- Provision of space for recreation
- SMART Policing
  - Increase police density
  - Equip with better technology
  - Better intelligence
  - Human Touch needed

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

⊙ Destressing Urban lives

- Better public commute
- Control on noise pollution
- Promoting work life balance
- Yoga sessions, reading rooms, vyayamshalas in urban localities

⊙ Awareness

- Children need to be made aware of good/bad touch and how to be vigilant and report any such incidences
- Community Policing can help
  - build awareness
  - pass on credible intelligence to police

⊙ Social support

- Day care institutions for children and elderly
- To reduce drug addiction and alcoholism

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Care for the elderly is fast emerging as a critical element of both public and private concern. Discuss in the context of India's increasing population of the elderly.

वृद्धों की देखभाल सार्वजनिक और निजी दोनों क्षेत्रों हेतु तेजी से चिंता के एक नाजुक विषय के रूप में उभर रहा है। भारत में वृद्धों की बढ़ती जनसंख्या के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

~~With India's population set to age fast in the coming decades, the need ~~to~~ of the elderly~~

India's elderly population as per the 2011 census stood at about 10 crore and is set to increase to 30 crore by 2050. Because elderly have different needs when it comes to care, care of elderly is fast emerging as a critical element ~~of~~ both public and private concern.

Public Concern

- Tertiary Healthcare infrastructure remains insufficient to ~~need~~ meet the needs of increasing elderly population
- The resource allocation towards elderly care in budgets has been inadequate

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Training programmes to prepare specialists in elderly care as well as nurses are inadequate
- Mental Health Care needs of the elderly are ignored, although the Mental Health Bill is a step forward
- Insurance Coverage for healthcare remains inadequate
- Public Awareness about the care of elderly remains poor

Private Concern

- Low savings for needs in old age
- nuclear families and eroding support systems ⇒ lack of caregivers
- Low incomes leading to inability to contribute to pension plans like Atal Pension Yojana
- Issue of 'Living Wills' and 'Advance Directives' for older people
- Lack of access to tertiary and

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

mental health care in rural areas

→ Special needs of elderly women who need dignity and special care in old age

Thus India's increasing elderly population would need to be critically looked by both the policy makers as well as private citizens. Increasing tertiary and mental health infrastructure, strengthening social security and higher social support can help alleviate some of these concerns.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. Rapid urbanization not only requires addressing the deficits in urban areas but also addressing those that are created because of it in rural areas. Comment. Also, evaluate the success of government programmes to reduce the stress on rural population because of urbanization.

तीव्र शहरीकरण न केवल शहरी क्षेत्रों के अभावों को दूर करने की मांग करता है अपितु इसके कारण ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में व्युत्पन्न कमियों से निपटना भी आवश्यक बनाता हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, शहरीकरण के कारण ग्रामीण आबादी पर पड़ने वाले दबाव को कम करने हेतु सरकारी योजनाओं की सफलता का भी मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

India has witnessed rapid urbanization in recent decades. The urban population in 2011 stood at 37 crore and is set to rise to 60 crores by 2030.

It creates deficits in both urban and rural areas.

Urban deficits

- Ghettoization :- leading to urban slums with poor housing, hygiene and healthcare facilities
- Overstrained urban transport :- Mumbai locals carry 70 lakh passengers each day; Delhi Metro (25 lakh)
- Overcrowded Public places and roads
- Environmental pollution (Air, Water, Noise)
- Increasing crimes
- Poor education facilities for poor
- Informal, insecure jobs

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Rural Deficits

- Increasing migration to cities
  - Women and elderly left behind ⇒ poor care
  - Feminization of agriculture ⇒ increased stress on women
  - Poor focus on childrens' education
- Low investment in rural infrastructure
- Lack of elderly care
- Lack of policy focus on rural areas in terms of job creation and provision of basic facilities

Thus rapid urbanization demands addressing both rural and urban deficits it creates.

(x) Various government programmes have attempted to address the twin deficits, eg

- Providing Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) through Rurban Mission
- Smart Villages Programme

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Various agriculture sector schemes
  - RKVY-RAFTAAR to increase the productivity & diversification of rural agriculture
  - PMKSY to increase irrigation coverage
  - PKVY to promote less input intensive, organic agriculture
  - Pashudhan Sanjeevni, NAM, gRAM and various other schemes
- Promoting Rural and MSME entrepreneurship
  - National Rural livelihoods mission
  - PM Employment Generation Programme

NRLM-ajeevika has helped organize rural populace into SHGs and has created rural employment. However Rurban and various agricultural schemes are yet to show impact on ground as evinced by recent rural distress. It is therefore imperative that the twin challenges be addressed in a more holistic & mission-mode manner.

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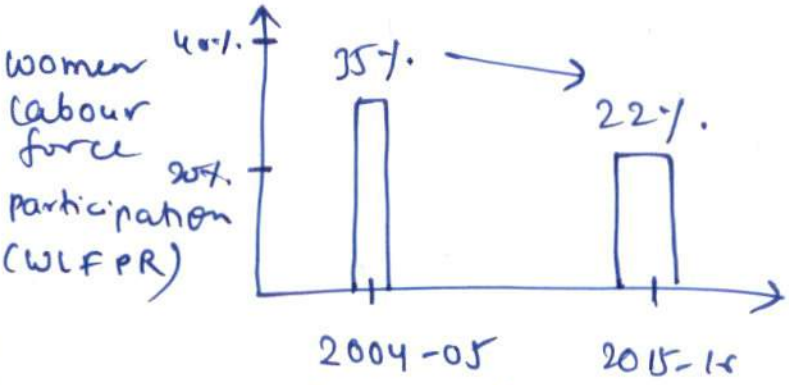
12. The relegation of women to private sphere of life is the main cause behind gender inequality and exploitation in India. Discuss.

महिलाओं को जीवन के निजी क्षेत्र तक सीमित करना, भारत में लैंगिक असमानता और शोषण के पीछे मुख्य कारण है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The participation of women in the public spheres of life - workplaces, politics and as social workers has been far from satisfactory in India. Women labour force participation has shown substantial decline recently.



source :- labour Bureau

Similarly, the crime against women has doubled in the last 10 years as NCRB data shows.

The relegation of women to private spheres of life - as wives, mothers and daughters - is cited as the main reason

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

towards increasing gender inequality and exploitation in India. This is mostly true, because;

- Patriarchial mindset leads to low participation in socio-politico-economic spheres of life by women
- Economic dependence on men leads to loss of voice in familial decision making too
- Inequalities in laws related to family matters - inheritance, dowry, divorce - further exacerbates the lack of voice
- Preference for sons and girls being seen 'as a burden' further perpetuates discrimination against girl child

The end result is a relegation of women to the 4 walls of the home - leading to their loss of freedom in participating in the public sphere. This leads to various undesirable outcomes:-

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- violence at home by husband and in-laws
- low ownership of property by women (13% as per NSSO)
- Exploitation at public places and workplaces if she manages to go out of the 4 walls
- Medieval dictats by informal bodies like Khap Panchayats further disempowers them.

Thus there is urgent need to promote women participation in the public spheres of life. While various laws can only help to a certain extent, a change in societal mindset through healthy debate and multi-pronged information, communication & education (IEC) activities will help more.

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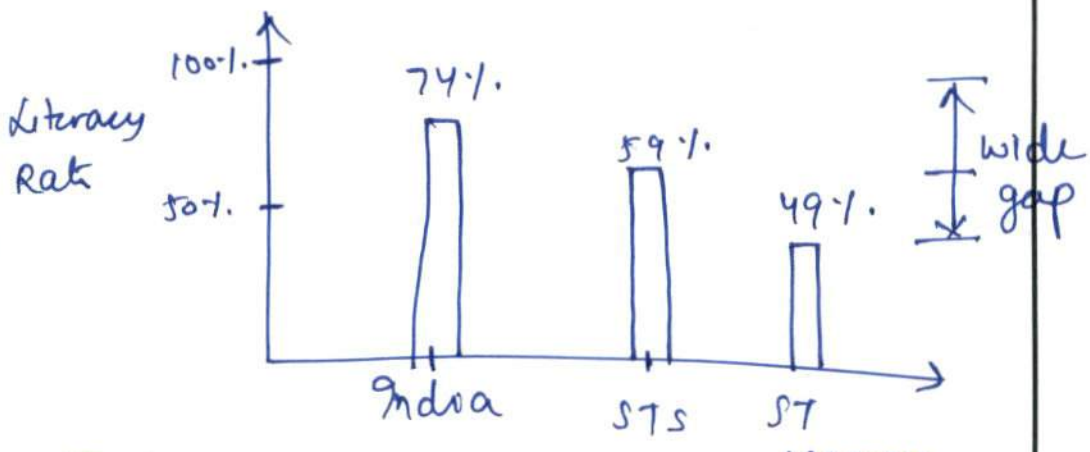
13. Education is an important avenue for uplifting the socio-economic status of the Scheduled Tribes. In this context, highlight the challenges faced in providing education to tribals in India. Also, suggest some measures for improvement of tribal education.

अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक अवस्थिति में उत्थान के लिए शिक्षा एक महत्त्वपूर्ण मार्ग है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में जनजातियों को शिक्षा प्रदान करने में सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, जनजातियों की शिक्षा में सुधार के लिए कुछ उपाय सुझाइए।

The 2011 census paints a grim picture of literacy rate of tribal population.



While education is an important avenue for uplifting the socio-economic status of STs, providing education to STs is associated with various challenges

1) Poor access

- Most tribals live in remote and forested areas
- School density is poor
- Small scattered settlements

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2) Poor Implementation of RTE
- The recent 'school mergers' of small/unviable ~~tribal~~ schools has particularly hit Tribal areas hard
- 25% quota for EWS is hardly implemented

3) Lack of Role Models
- STs, particularly in rural areas lack role models they can look up to
- Low awareness building by community and opinion leaders

4) High Cost of Private Education
- Where public schools have not reached

5) Widespread Poverty
- Due to which children are expected to help in earning family's livelihood

6) Poor condition of Ashram & Eklavya Schools
- Low safety
- High Pupil-teacher Ratio
- High Distance

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Measures to improve tribal education

→ Strict implementation of RTE
- Particularly section 12(1)(c) mandating 25% EWS quota
- Better school infrastructure

→ Better access
- School merger should be relooked into
- Small schools need to be supplemented with residential schools

→ Proper implementation of Mid-Day Meal Scheme
- To reduce drop out rate

→ Incentives like conditional cash transfer and scholarships

→ Better awareness among parents and community leaders about the need of educating the children.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Even though millions have been lifted out of poverty in recent decades, the rise in inequality may have dire consequences for the society. Explain in the light of recent studies highlighting this increasing trend.

हालाँकि हालिया दशकों में लाखों लोगों को गरीबी से बाहर निकाला गया है, लेकिन असमानता में वृद्धि के समाज के लिए खतरनाक परिणाम हो सकते हैं। इस बढ़ती हुई प्रवृत्ति पर प्रकाश डालते हुए हालिया अध्ययनों के आलोक में व्याख्या कीजिए।

While India has been able to lift millions out of poverty, particularly in the post 1991 period, various recent studies have painted a grim picture about inequality

1) Picketty and Chancel in their study 'From British Raj to Billionaire Raj' highlight that inequality in India is at its highest level since 1924

2) Oxfam's report 'An economy for the 1%' highlighted

- Top 10% of Indians own 58% of <u>wealth</u> at the end of 2016
- Top 10% of Indians appropriated 73% of <u>income</u> in 2017

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3) World Bank reported that India's Gini Coefficient has risen from 0.45 in 1991-92 to 0.51 in 2013-14

This disturbing increase in inequality can have dire consequences

1) Economic
- → Further pauperization of poor
- → Increasing concentration of wealth
- → lower taxes, therefore lower redistributive capacity of the state
- → Increasing drain of wealth out of the country

2) Social
- → Increased ~~tensions~~ stress among the poorer section
- → Increasing antagonism against the rich
- → May lead to social unrest
- → Poor health, nutrition and sanitation outcomes
- → Poor educational & skilling outcomes

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3) Political

- → Increasing demand for higher taxation and wealth tax
- → Political agitations demanding better income and livelihoods
- → Backlash against globalization that may become a global issue

Due to these reasons, it is important, therefore, that increasing inequalities be checked through

- → Progressive taxation
- → Inheritance and wealth tax as suggested by Aravind Subramanian
- → Stricter capital gains tax regime
- → Taxes on ~~transfer~~ 'Transfer Pricing' cases, but with a clear and transparent regime
- → Crackdown on black money & Benami Properties
- → Cooperation with G20/OECD on Base Erosion & Profit sharing (BEPS)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. Growing 'informalization of labour market' is perceived as a barrier to realising economic potential as well as a hindrance to longrun economic development and poverty reduction. Discuss.

श्रम बाज़ार के बढ़ते अनौपचारीकरण' को आर्थिक संभाव्यता को साकार करने में एक अवरोध के साथ-साथ दीर्घकालिक आर्थिक विकास तथा गरीबी न्यूनीकरण में एक व्यवधान के रूप में देखा जाता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The informalization of labour market means high prevalence of seasonal or contractual jobs that do not come attached with social security benefits.

Indian Economy is characterized by highly informal labour market with about 80% of jobs informal, although recent data has shown increasing formalization post GST & Demonetization episodes.

Informalization of labour market is a barrier to long run economic development and in realizing economic potential because :-

→ Companies do not invest in skilling of informal workforce

→ Informal jobs have low wages, leaving little to the worker as private savings, a key driver of economic

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

growth

→ Low incomes also mean that the multiplier effect of wages on economy is absent in India to a large extent

→ Lack of pensions / EPFO contribution in ~~big~~ informal sectors further erodes a culture of saving for the future and reduces capital formation in the economy

→ Informal enterprises continue to remain small, and do not invest in better machinery, leading to low productivity in the economy.

Similarly, Informalization of Labour Market hinders the poverty alleviation effort

⊖ low salaries, just enough to make both ends meet

⊖ low job security, with the perpetual risk of losing job

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- risk of falling back to poverty ~~as~~ if job loss occurs
- Poverty in the old age due to absence of social security
- low skill level leading to inability to find better, formal job.

Thus, the need of the hour is to promote greater formalization with a combination of incentives. ~~Govt~~ EPFO contribution of Employer's share by Govt. and higher GST registration are a good start towards formalization.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. The focus on risk factors that appear at a young age and timely interventions is the key to preventing child delinquency and its escalation into chronic criminality. Analyse the statement with respect to growing incidences of child delinquency in context of India.

कम उम्र में दिखाई पड़ने वाले जोखिम कारकों पर ध्यान तथा समय पर हस्तक्षेप बाल अपराध एवं उनके बढ़कर स्थायी अपराधी बनने के निवारण की कुंजी है। भारत के संदर्भ में बाल अपराध की बढ़ती घटनाओं के परिप्रेक्ष्य में इस कथन का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

There has been an increase in the cases of child delinquency in the recent past. Such children often fall into chronic criminality, eg Nirbhaya case, where one of the perpetrators was a minor.

Child delinquencies appear at a young age due to variety of reasons and influences:

- Poverty in the family due to which the child does crime
- Dual-income families due to which parents are not able to give adequate attention
- Broken families
  - → Marital discords
  - → Alcoholic / Drug addict father
  - → Domestic violence

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Men deserting their families
→ Criminal antecedents in family
→ Parents in Jail

⊖ Influence of media
→ Social media :- bad influences of violent content being shared
→ Depiction of women as a commodity in ads and films
→ Exposure to explicit contents

⊖ Internet and exposure to pornography

⊖ Bad ~~friend~~ influence of friends leading to smoking, drinking and substance abuse

Such factors lead to child delinquencies, that if not checked can lead to serious consequences. To curb such cases, it is needed that

→ Parents pay greater attention to children's education
→ Parents and teachers monitor the

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

influences that the child is coming under

→ A control on social media use and increased parental supervision

→ Noticing early signs of delinquency and taking corrective measures by building healthy support structures

→ Moral and value education in schools

→ Provision of recreational outdoor facilities
- Play grounds - yoga sessions etc.
~~→ Quick~~

Thus a multi-pronged approach can help check child delinquency.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. Digital technology can either be a game changer for disadvantaged children or yet another dividing line that prevents children from fulfilling their potential. Discuss.

डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकी या तो वंचित बच्चों के लिए एक दिशा-परिवर्तक हो सकती है या फिर एक और बांटने वाली रेखा बन सकती है जो बच्चों को उनकी संभावनाओं की प्राप्ति से रोकती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Digital Technology is building an interconnected society through smartphones, computers and internet. It has immense potential to be a game changer for children in general and disadvantaged children (poor, SCs, STs, PWDs and transgender) in particular.

They can be a game-changer by:-

- Increasing access to educational content
- Supplementing knowledge gained at school that tend to be not very responsive to the needs of disadvantaged children
  - → MOOCs
  - → 24x7 DTH channels like Swayam Prabha

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- Helping build skills like, particularly digital skills that are increasingly becoming essential for employment.
- Arming such children with skills necessary for self-employment
- Awaring such children about various government schemes (eg scholarships)
- Providing them information about various exams and job opportunities

(*) However they can also become yet another dividing line that prevents children from fulfilling their potential by :-

- Providing multiplicity of poor influences
  - → social media
    - violent content, hate messages, cyber bullying and so on
  - → Pornographic content
  - → Unwelcome advances by strangers

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

⊖ Providing yet another avenue that takes away time from learning and self-advancement

⊖ Digital technology availability, but poor digital literacy can further compound access problem for the disadvantaged.

Thus it is imperative that such children be guided on how they can use digital technologies to their benefits and armed with proper digital literacy (eg through Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan) so that they are able to use the technologies to their benefit.

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18. The demand by nativist political parties and movements that employment preferences be given to "local" people has raised certain issues. Examine the statement in the context of 'son of soil theory' in India. Also discuss, why such demands develop in some states and cities and not in others.

देशीय राजनीतिक दलों और आंदोलनों द्वारा "स्थानीय" लोगों को रोजगार में प्राथमिकता देने की मांग ने कुछ निश्चित मुद्दों को उठाया है। भारत में 'मिट्टी के लाल के सिद्धांत' के संदर्भ में इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि ऐसी मांगें कुछ राज्यों और शहरों में हीं क्यूँ विकसित होती हैं, अन्य में नहीं।

The 'Son of the Soil Theory' advocates that preference in local employment be given to locals first, to the exclusion of 'outsiders'. Such movements are often fuelled by political parties who use the issue to build their support base (eg in Maharashtra). The demand arises because of:-

- Shrinking employment opportunities in the formal sector
- Huge underemployment
- A poor understanding of the 'Idea of India' that all Indian ~~people~~ citizens have a right to profession in all parts of the country (except

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

of a few exceptions)

- local population not reaping the fruit of development of the region (eg Bangalore)
- Propaganda by political parties and vested interests
- A feeling that 'outsiders' are claiming the fruits of development rather than those who have lived there for a long time. This breeds a feeling of 'entitlement' in certain sections.

Thus such movements have developed in certain places like Mumbai and Bangalore, but not in other places because:-

(-) local identities are not strong in some other places (eg Delhi-NCR where almost the entire population is migrant

(-) Political parties are more mature

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else where

- Regional languages are not different from the lingua-franca of the immigrants (Hyderabad)
- Employment opportunities are more abundant (Delhi)
- Rule of law is stronger and miscreants are swiftly dealt with
- Regional parties are not very strong

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19. The mixing of caste and politics resulting into 'politicization of caste' and 'casteization of politics' in contemporary India has become a grave challenge to our democracy. Comment.

समकालीन भारत में जाति तथा राजनीति के मिश्रण के परिणामस्वरूप होने वाला 'जाति का राजनीतिकरण' तथा 'राजनीति का जातिकरण' हमारे लोकतंत्र के सामने एक गंभीर चुनौती बन गया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Politics and caste are an unhealthy mixture. However, in the Indian society, characterized by various caste-based cleavages, politics and caste ~~always~~ often intermix, leading to:-

(i) Politicization of caste where a caste group, to protect is real or perceived interests gets politicized and undertakes political agitation and propaganda to further its ends

- eg Dalit Movement under BSP
- Patidar Movement under Hardik Patel
- Jats' movement for reservation and recently Maratha agitation.

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(+) Castization of Politics where various political parties pander to casti-based feelings and actively engage in casti mobilization and social engineering to further their political aims & capture power.

eg

- Ticket distribution keeping casti factor in mind.

However these 2 phenomena have become a threat to our democracy because:-

(−) Developmental policies and the National Development agenda takes a backseat

(−) It breeds animosity among various castes (eg Gujjar-Meena Rivalry in Rajasthan)

(−) Dishonest and corrupt politicians

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win elections by pandering to caste feelings

⊖ It becomes an obstacle in the eventual elimination of caste-based cleavages in the society to form an egalitarian, progressive India.

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20. Explaining the importance of middle class in the developmental process of a country, discuss the grounds on which the Indian middle class is criticized by some.

किसी देश की विकास प्रक्रिया में मध्यम वर्ग के महत्व की व्याख्या करते हुए, उन आधारों की चर्चा कीजिए जिन पर कुछ लोगों के द्वारा भारतीय मध्यम वर्ग की आलोचना की जाती है।

The Middle class, comprising of the middle 30-40% in the income distribution plays an important part in the development process of a country

→ It earns a good part of national income and saves for better tommorrow

→ It purchases a variety of consumer goods and services and helps absorb the industrial production

→ It often provides wage employment to others through entrepreneurship

→ It is liberal in outlook and receptive to ideas of social and economic progress

→ It participates fiercely in debates

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on national issues and priorities and shapes policies.

However Indian middle class is criticized on the following grounds-

→ It is passive in terms of political participation and does not vote in large numbers

→ It has not been able to shun Caste & religion based identities

→ It looks at its own narrow benefit while analyzing various socio-economic & political issues

→ It does not fiercely protest against corruption and injustice

However as India against corruption movement & Justice for Nirbhaya Movements showed, it is able to break the stereotype and agitate for a better India.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1068)

Name of Candidate	Deepak Kumar Dubey		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	74631
Center	ORN	Date	9/9/2018

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
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11	15	
12	15	
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. There are many challenges in sustainably scaling up renewable energy in India. Analyse. Also, discuss what can be done to address these challenges. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा को संधारणीय रूप से बढ़ाने में कई चुनौतियां हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है।

In the backdrop of increasing global warming and India's excessive reliance on fossil fuels for meeting its ever-increasing energy needs, there is a pressing need to sustainably scale Renewable energy in India. However, challenges abound:-

(i) Financing :- It has been estimated that meeting India's 175GW renewable energy target by 2022 will require $200 Billion of financing

(ii) Pressing developmental challenges make it difficult to divert financial resources to Renewable Energy (RE) sector

(iii) Import dependence for critical components like solar wafers and lack of domestic intellectual property (IP) base

iv) Land availability :- As RE projects require large amount of land per unit power generated

v) Lack of technical & financing support from developed nations despite Paris commitments

vi) RE, particularly solar energy cannot be used as base load

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vii) lack of domestic R&D, qualified technical manpower and institutional capacity

Steps needed to address these challenges

- → PPP mode for financing
- → Developing land banks
- → Multilateral sources for financing (eg ADB, WB, AIIB)
- → Promoting R&D (International Solar Alliance can be a great catalyst)
- → Resolving IP disputes (eg with US at WTO)
- → Investing in energy storage systems research, critical for solar energy
- → Capacity building (eg scaling up the Solar Mitra Programme)
- → Promoting domestic manufacturing through policy support & fiscal incentives

Therefore, while challenges abound in scaling up RE in India and meeting India's INDCs committed at Paris-2015, a multi-pronged approach with both public & private engagement and an enabling policy environment can help overcome those.

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2. The policies and indicators introduced by the government, in recent times, to finance urban development in India are key in addressing the existing challenges. Discuss with special reference to municipal bonds.

(150 words) 10

हाल ही में, भारत में शहरी विकास का वित्त पोषण करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा आरंभ की गई नीतियां और संकेतक वर्तमान चुनौतियों से निपटने हेतु महत्वपूर्ण हैं। नगरपालिका बंधपत्रों (म्युनिसिपल बॉण्ड) के विशेष संदर्भ के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

The Urban population in India as per 2011 was 37 crores and is projected to increase to 60 crores by 2030. A large-scale urbanization requires robust and plentiful financing, backed by enabling policies and robust indicators. Some Policies and indicators are :-

→ Smart Cities Mission → About 120 cities to get 500 cron of financing over 5 years and will leverage those to build infrastructure through PPP/SPV mode

→ AMRUT :- To build infrastructure like sustainable transportation, waste management etc. in cities other than smart cities

→ Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban :- For scaling affordable housing

→ Metro Policy for enhanced urban mobility

→ Ease of Living Index :- To rank cities on various liveability parameters

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→ star rating for cities under swachh bharat (to promote cleanliness)

To meet these objectives, significant amount of private financing is needed. Moreover, Urban Local bodies need to take the lead in ~~raising up~~ procuring financing. Municipal Bonds are one such source.

Municipal bonds are issued by Urban local bodies to finance infrastructure project. The investors in such bonds are paid from project cash flows.

For ULBs stretched for financing, Municipal Bonds can help increase investments in urban transport, municipal waste management, drinking water supply etc. However a few enablers are needed

→ Sound finances
→ Good accounting practices and transparency
→ Getting investment-grade credit rating
→ Corruption-free governance

Recently about 1000 ULBs were rated and more than 50% obtained Investment Grade rating.

The need of the hour is to scale up municipal bonds to sustainably scale infrastructure upgradation in urban areas.

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3. With a number of issues continuing to be a roadblock, a large section of India's rural population is still 'financially excluded'. Discuss. Analyse how these issues can be addressed and the measures taken by the government and RBI recently in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

कई मुद्दों के लगातार अवरोध बने रहने से भारत की ग्रामीण जनसंख्या का एक बड़ा हिस्सा अभी भी 'वित्तीय रूप से अपवर्जित' है। चर्चा कीजिए। इन मुद्दों से कैसे निपटा जा सकता है और हाल ही में सरकार तथा RBI द्वारा इस संबंध में उठाए गए कदमों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Financial inclusion means the provision of bank accounts enabled with digital banking that can be leveraged to deliver a host of other products and services eg Direct Benefit transfer, pension and insurance products.

Jan Dhan Yojana and JAM trinity have been key enablers of digital inclusion (32 crore accounts opened; 80000 crores of deposits mobilized; 1,50,000 crores of Subsidies transferred through DBT)

However a large section of rural population remains digitally excluded because of.

- → lack of digital literacy
- → Low penetration of bank accounts in far flung areas
- → Lack of provision of branches, ATMs and Banking Correspondents (BCs)
- → low penetration of financial products
- → Poor digital connectivity in rural areas

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Ways to address the issue

- Improving digital literacy
- Increasing the BC network by better incentives for BCs
- Expanding the DBT programme
- Increasing internet penetration
- Involving local bodies in digital literacy programmes for better last mile delivery
- Increasing insurance and pension coverage

Measures taken

- Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan (DISHA)
- RBI's amended rules on branch networks (where banking services provision by BCs is counted as a rural branch)
- 24X7 channel for spreading digital literacy
- Increasing DBT coverage → Kerosene, Foodgrains, Scholarships, LPG (UJJWALA)
- National optical fiber Network (NFON) now covers 1,00,000 gram panchayats.

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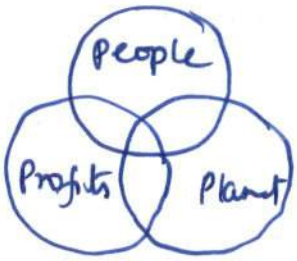
4. What do you understand by the term 'Environmental Accounting'? Discussing the rationale behind introducing environmental accounting, highlight its status in India. **(150 words) 10**

'पर्यावरणीय लेखांकन' पद से आप क्या समझते हैं? पर्यावरणीय लेखांकन आरंभ करने के औचित्य की चर्चा करते हुए, भारत में इसकी स्थिति पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Environmental Accounting is an approach of measuring the environmental impact of a firm's operations and using it for guiding the firm's sustainability actions. Environmental Accounting (EA) is an affirmation of the triple bottom line concept, where profits are not the sole motive of a corporation



Triple Bottom Line

EA, therefore, looks at the impact on planet by corporate activities, eg

- environmental pollution (Unilever's kodaikanal mercury poisioning for example)
- resource use (eg Pepsico's Palakkad plant overdrawing groundwater)
- Deforestation and land use change
- loss of biodiversity

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Rationale behind EA

→ Polluter Pays Principle → corporates have a responsibility to pay for the adverse ~~of~~ impacts due to operations
→ Increasing environmental footprint of corporations
→ Corporates are an integral part of the community and therefore decreasing environmental impact is important
→ Measurement of impact is the first step in mitigation measures.

Status in India

→ SEBI directive that top ~~500~~ 100 BSE firms must publish sustainability reports annually along with annual reports
→ Many Indian corporates are voluntarily part of Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) that promotes EA
→ Environmental and social Impact Assessments (EIA and SIA) aim to measure impact of proposed projects and are integral part of Land Aquisition Act, 2013.

There is need to further mainstream EA for better sustainability outcomes for firms.

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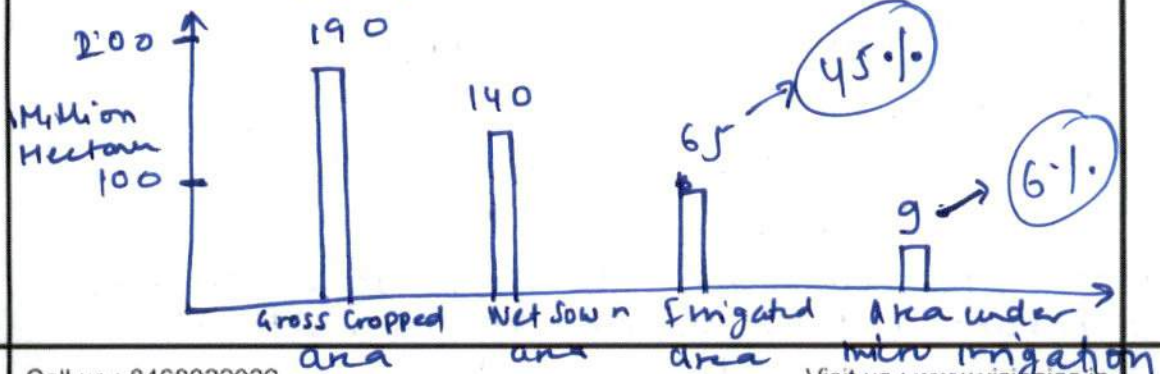
5. While access to irrigation is important, efficiency of water use is equally, if not more, crucial. Examine. **(150 words) 10**

जहाँ सिंचाई तक पहुँच महत्वपूर्ण है, वहीं जल उपयोग दक्षता भी यदि अधिक नहीं तो उतनी ही महत्वपूर्ण है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

In the backdrop of climate change that is characterized by rising temperatures and erratic precipitation, access to irrigation becomes extremely important. In the unirrigated areas, global warming could reduce farming income by 20-25%. (economic survey) and therefore increasing irrigation coverage is important. Irrigation is also important to:

- → ensure food and nutrition security
- → promote sustainable livelihoods
- → reduce rural distress
- → contain food inflation
- → improve soil health and contain land degradation

However progress on irrigation coverage has been slow:



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The efficiency of water use, i.e water used per unit crop output is equally important, because

- India's per capita water availability of 1545 m^3/person/year makes it 'water stressed'
- The rainfall has been decreasing (1970; 120cm; 2015; 119cm)
- Rainfall is unevenly distributed across India and is received in 4-5 months
- Flood type irrigation wastes a lot of water and essential nutrients
- Water demand from non-agricultural sources (households, industries) is increasing.

Thus there is a pressing need to promote water efficiency. Several initiatives have been taken in this Regard

- PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana
  - More Crop Per Drop
  - Increasing irrigation coverage
- Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABHY)
- Increasing micro irrigation coverage (now 9 million hectares) through subsidy & policy support

Further expanding irrigation coverage & efficiency is paramount for sustainable agricultural development

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. For a holistic approach to disaster risk reduction, there is a need to mainstream indigenous traditional knowledge and link it with modern technologies. Analyse. **(150 words) 10**

आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण के एक समग्र दृष्टिकोण के लिए, देशज पारंपरिक ज्ञान को मुख्यधारा में लाने और उसे आधुनिक तकनीकों से जोड़ने की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

As per a recent UN office of Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) report, India is one of the most vulnerable countries globally as far as displacement potential of disasters is concerned. As such, using a holistic approach to disaster risk reduction (DRR) ~~and~~ ~~seeking~~ using a combination of both traditional knowledge and modern methods is needed.

Traditional Methods

→ Local communities have, over centuries, built their own coping mechanisms.
(eg 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami did not affect indigeneous Tribes and their Habitations much)

→ Local communities have perfected design techniques suitable to disaster risk ~~of~~ profile of the area
(eg Uttarakhand floods of 2013 did not damage traditional wood and stone houses as much)

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→ Women play ~~and~~ an important part in disaster mitigation measures that have been used traditionally be communities

Modern Methods

→ ~~M~~ Can help build strong and relisient local infrastructure like roads, dams, community buildings

→ Can help develop superior building materials that take inspiration from locally used materials

→ Can provide robust early warning ~~to~~ that can reduce damages from disasters

→ Can make information dissemination and capacity building better through the use of modern digital technologies

→ Geospatial Technology can help in better land use and habitation planning and thus help in DRR

Therefore what is needed is a good mix of traditional and modern methods to build resilient infrastructure and for increasing the capacity of communities to cope with disasters. It is of utmost importance that community be at the centre of DRR planning for robust and sustainable results.

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7. What do you understand by food irradiation? Highlighting some of its unique applications, examine its relevance for India. **(150 words) 10**

खाद्य विकिरण (food irradiation) से आप क्या समझते हैं? इसके कुछ विशिष्ट अनुप्रयोगों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत के लिए इसकी प्रासंगिकता का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Food irradiation is the controlled exposure of raw and manufactured food products to nuclear radiations like Gamma (γ) rays and X-rays. Irradiation can kill harmful microbes that have the potential of harming human health if taken along with food.

Some of the unique applications are :-

→ To increase the ~~shelf life~~ shelf life of food products

→ To reduce spoilage at all stages in the food value chain

→ To treat food items prior to exports to destinations that have very strict quality standards

→ In food processing industries, before final packaging of the food

→ In ready to eat food items

→ In hospitals where it is extremely important that microbes do not reach the food plate of patients with low immunity.

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Relevance for India

→ High spoilage (upto 15% for food and vegetables, leading to a wastage amounting to Rs. 40000 crore) in the food value chain

→ Indian food exports to developing world frequently face sanitary & phytosanitary (SPS) measures based rejections (eg Alphonso Mangoes in EU)

→ Focus on Food Processing to increase value add (currently less than 10%)

→ For success of schemes like SAMPADA and Mega Food Parks

→ High disease burden due to communicable diseases that are often caused by microbes taken with food

→ Poor maternal and child nutrition status.

Thus irradiation technology is extremly important in India and must become a critical component of the agri and food value chain. Fiscal incentives under the Mega Food Park are a good start to increase irradiation coverage.

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8. Whereas misuse of technology has abetted the spread of fake news, it is with the aid of technology that this menace can be curbed. Elaborate.

(150 words) 10

जहां प्रौद्योगिकी के दुरुपयोग ने फेक न्यूज़ (झूठे समाचारों) के प्रसार को बढ़ावा दिया है, वहीं प्रौद्योगिकी की सहायता से ही इस खतरे पर अंकुश भी लगाया जा सकता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Fake news is a news items based upon wrong facts. These wrong facts can be due to avariety of reasons:-

- → Improper source checking
- → Deliberately planted to spread misinformation
- → To further subversive/dangerous propaganda

The spread of fake news has taken alarming proportions and misuse of technology is one of the key factors abetting it:-

- → Mobile phones, particularly smart phones have become ubiquitous (Indians have 125 crore phones)
- → 45 crore Indians are online
- → Various social media applications (Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp) help spread fakenews to hundreds and thousands of other people simultaneously)
- → It is difficult to check the authenticity of ~~source~~ news all the times for users

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The spread of fake news is alarming because it has been:-

- used by terrorist groups
- used to spread communal hatred
- used to spread misinformation about child trafficking and led to lynchings.

However, fake news can be curbed by aid of technology

- → Artificial Intelligence based platforms that can check the authenticity of the source of news (Facebook working on it)
- → Deep and Machine learning to understand patterns in fake news and their sources
- → Using technology and social media platforms to spread awareness about the menace
- → Limiting the number of users that a ~~source~~ news with dubious source can be transmitted to (whatsapp using it)
- → Clearly marking 'forwarded messages' to track the source of news
- → Blocking websites that spread Fake News and misinformation

Thus technology can be used to spread as well as curb fake news. To curb such news, awareness building and community involvement is paramount.

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9. Explain the salient features of the recently established Defence Planning Committee. How can it help in credible defence preparedness?

(150 words) 10

हाल ही में गठित रक्षा नियोजन समिति (डिफेंस प्लानिंग कमेटी) की प्रमुख विशेषताओं की व्याख्या कीजिए। यह विश्वसनीय रक्षा तैयारी में कैसे सहायता कर सकता है?

Defence planning Committee has recently been constituted ~~wit~~ as a multi-member body with wide and varied representation. It will be headed by the National security Advisor (NSA) and will all include:-

- Secretaries of relevant ministries
- The 3 Chiefs of staffs.

Other Salient Features

- It will have representation from both finance and defence ministry to better deliberate upon security aspect as well as financial implication of the planned purchases
- Armed forces involvement would help bring the end-user perspectives on ~~technology~~ technical aspects and platform/weapon capability
- The committee will take a long term approach to procurement and build a procurement pipline
- Project will ultimately be approved by CCEA

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

The Committee can play a the role of a catalyst in defence preparedness

→ By faster decision making
→ By bringing multiple perspectives
→ By expediting critical defence purchases as defence procurement cycle in India is long and marked by excessive bureaucratic & procedural hurdles (eg MMRCA aircraft deal was ~~approv~~ given go ahead in 2003)
→ By taking an integrated approach to weapon systems from the perspective of national security
→ By promoting private sector involvement in defence production that also dovetails with the aims of Make in India programme

Thus defence procurement committee can play an enabling role in expediting the purchase process of key weapon systems and platforms and will help improve India's defence preparedness.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Recent reports of Maoist leaders having amassed huge assets in property and cash underlines the significance of probing the funding network as part of counter-terrorism efforts. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

संपत्ति और नकदी के रूप में विशाल परिसंपत्तियां एकत्रित करने वाले माओवादी नेताओं की हालिया रिपोर्टों ने आतंकवाद-रोधी प्रयासों के भाग के रूप में वित्त पोषण नेटवर्क की जाँच करने का महत्व रेखांकित किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Maoist ideology is ~~one of~~ the biggest threat to India's Internal Security, as former PM Dr. Manmohan Singh said.
Recent incidents of maoist leaders amaning huge assets is a grave concern and it calls for better investigation in probing the funding network of maoists.
Maoist Terrorism and unlawful activities go hand in hand, and Maoists use a variety of channels to generate funds for their subversive agenda, eg

- → Extortions
- → Levy on government contracts
- → kidnappings
- → Smuggling of Fake Indian Currency Notes
- → Human Trafficking
- → Narcotics and arms smuggling

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Moreover, recent revelations that left wing extremists have tie-ups with (i) seperatists based in North-East (ii) Maoists in Nepal further point to a pan-India and even international funding network.

Thus to give teeth to its counter-terror efforts, India must ~~make efforts~~ track the source of maoist funds, particularly:-

- Channels of fund generation enumerated above
- Means of fund transfer (Hawala etc.)
- Sympathisers in civil society that may be acting as fronts and mobilizing finances for maoists
- Tie up with foreign terror organizations and fund exchange with them.

Thus the sources of property for Maoist leaders should be thoroughly investigated and its interlinkages with other terror organizations and unlawful activities must be unearthed to bolster India's counter terror efforts

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. Not only do services MSMEs contribute mightily to the overall GDP growth, they have a powerful, multiplier impact on the local economies as well. Elaborating on the statement, highlight the problems faced by service sector MSMEs. How can the government make it easier for MSMEs to start and grow a business? **(250 words) 15**

MSMEs से संबद्ध सेवा उद्यम न केवल समग्र GDP संवृद्धि में बहुत अधिक योगदान देती हैं, बल्कि उनका स्थानीय अर्थव्यवस्थाओं पर भी एक सशक्त और गुणक प्रभाव है। इस कथन का सविस्तार वर्णन करते हुए, MSMEs सेवा क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं पर प्रकाश डालिए। सरकार MSMEs के लिए किसी व्यवसाय को आरंभ करने और उसके विकास को कैसे आसान बना सकती है?

MSMEs are one of the most vibrant sector of Indian Economy. They contribute 45% to India's manufacturing output and 40% to India's export and provide employment to almost 11 cron workers.

Contribution to GDP Growth

→ MSMEs form a large part of both manufacturing and services output, both of which have been growing at more than 7% in recent years

→ India's exports form ~40% of its GDP and MSME contribution is substantial

→ MSMEs contribute significantly to Value Addition and to Gross Value Added (GVA) in the economy.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Multiplier Effect on Local Economies

→ MSMEs provide wage employment to both skilled and unskilled labour
→ The wages support local economies, particularly rural economies
→ Helps increase purchasing power and ~~de~~ aggregate demands in rural areas
→ The demand ultimately helps in capital ~~investment~~ formation and further GDP growth
→ MSMEs particularly help in making GDP growth more broad-based by promoting regional equality in value addition.

Problems Faced by the MSME Sector

→ Poor Access to credit
→ Poor marketing linkages
→ Inadequate integration with global value chains
→ Lack of proper infrastructural facilities (roads, power, water supply etc.) leading to high cost of doing business
→ Regulatory hurdles in form of clearances and inspections
→ Lack of skilled manpower

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ low value addition in many MSME sectors
→ low mechanization and outdated machinery
→ lack of policy and administrative support
→ Recently, many MSMEs have faced
  → challenges in GST adoption/migration due to low digital literacy
  → declining profitability post demonetization due to cash-based nature of business

Govt. can take the following steps to increase ease of doing business for MSMEs

→ Better Credit Availability at cheaper rates (eg interest subvention scheme)
→ Subsidy support for technology upgradation (through PM Employment Generation Programme)
→ Skilling of labour force through (PMKVY)
→ Better marketing linkages (eg through Mahila-e-Haat for women SHG-based MSMEs)
→ Simplifying GST regime further
→ Provision of 24x7 power and better road connectivity
→ Export incentives
→ Developing MSME clusters and hand-holding through expert services (SFURTI scheme)
→ easing bottlenecks in exports

Thus, a variety of concerted steps are needed to further improve the productivity and value addition in MSME sector and to make them engines of growth.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. Contract Farming has many advantages, however it suffers from market failures. Elaborate. What can the government do to correct problems that lead to contract failures? Also, discuss whether the Model Contract Farming Act, 2018 is a step in the right direction. **(250 words) 15**

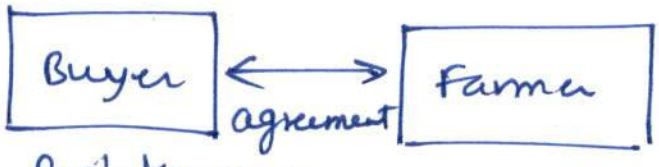
संविदा कृषि (कॉन्ट्रैक्ट फार्मिंग) के कई लाभ हैं, हालांकि यह बाजार की विफलताओं से ग्रस्त है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। सरकार, संविदा विफलताओं का कारण बनने वाली समस्याओं को ठीक करने हेतु क्या कर सकती है? साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या मॉडल संविदा कृषि अधिनियम, 2018 सही दिशा में उठाया गया एक कदम है।

Contract Farming is a farming method that is based upon:

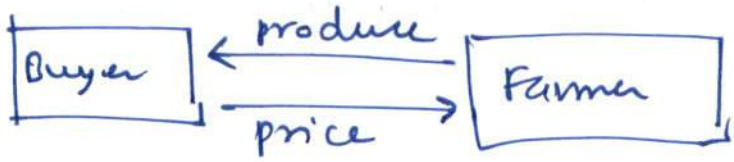
→ a pre-harvest agreement between a farmer and buyer

→ wherein the buyer commits to buy a specified amount of produce at specified price at a future date

Pre-harvest



Post Harvest



Contract farming has many advantages

→ For famers

→ Technology, extention and input support in the form of good quality seeds, better farming practices

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Latest R&D aimed at improving farm productivity & produce quality
→ Assurance of post-harvest revenues irrespective of the market price
→ Better income realization

→ For Buyer
→ Good Quality produce
→ Assured availability
→ Reasonable, fixed prices
→ Uniformity in raw materials
→ Predictable supply source
→ Corporate social responsibility.

However, market failures may occur in contract farming when
→ One of the parties reneges on the commitment
→ Price crashes post harvest, and buyer buys from market
→ Buyer does not provide pre-agreed price
→ Information Asymmetries exist between the parties
→ Farmer is penalized by fines, penalties & land possession for failure in delivering upon the commitment.

Steps Needed to Correct Contract Failures
→ Black and white contracts that must be honoured
→ Dispute redressal mechanism

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Punitive measures if buyers dupes the farmers (fines + jail term) + compensation)
→ Building awareness among farmers
→ Govt. stepping in as a buyer if the buyer defaults.

In this context, various provisions of Model Contract Farming Act are a step in the right direction :-

(i) Blanket ban of possesion of land to protect farmers
(ii) Encourages dispute resolution and provides for ~~the~~ punitive measures
(iii) Contract farming produce to be out of state APMCs
(iv) All such agreements must be on the back of a pre-written and agreed contract that specifies the quantity & grade of the produce

The model act can act as a catalyst in the promotion of contract farming. It should further be strengthened by building awareness among farmers about its provisions and institutionalizing robust grievance redressal mechanisms.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. Suggest the measures needed to improve the employability of labour force as well as increasing number of employment opportunities in light of structural changes being brought by disruptive technologies.

(250 words) 15

विघटनकारी प्रौद्योगिकियों (डिस्रप्टिव टेक्नोलॉजी) द्वारा लाए जा रहे संरचनात्मक परिवर्तनों के प्रकाश में श्रम बल की नियोजनीयता में सुधार लाने के साथ-साथ रोजगार अवसरों की संख्या बढ़ाने के लिए आवश्यक उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

As Economic survey 2017-18 points out, India faces a dichotomy where:-

- There is an acute shortage of market-relevant skills among a large portion of India's conventionally educated workforce
- There is an unfulfilled demand for skilled workers in many sectors, particularly knowledge-intensive sectors.

Moreover disruptive technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Autonomous Manufacturing, Robotics, Big Data and Machine learning further increase the challenge for India:-

→ Shrinking labour demand in traditional Industries (eg Manufacturing)
→ Need to re-skill and up-skill existing labour force (eg IT sector)
→ Need to provide social security and basic income
→ Hinderance in succes of Make in India

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Thus, various measures that are needed are as follows

1) To improve the employability of workforce

- → To reorient education, ~~primary~~ importantly higher education so that it imparts market-appropriate skills
- → Improving training infrastructure like ITIs (through SANKALP & STRIVE schemes)
- → Skilling at scale and with speed through PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana
- → Promoting Apprenticeship (National Apprenticeship Promotion scheme)
- → On the Job skilling (eg IT sector)
- → Promoting vocational education & integrating it with formal education by providing lateral/horizontal entry and exit
- → Reforming skill administration in in country, particularly NSDC & sectoral skill councils as suggested by Sharda Prasad Committee
- → Improving certification regime and mainstreaming Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) & Bridge Courses

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2) To Increase Number of Employment opportunities

- → Promoting labour-intensive manufacturing (eg leather & footwear, Gems & Jewellery and Textile sectors)
- → Improving Ease of Doing Business further by easing regulatory burden. It will attract FDI and create more jobs
- → Solving the NPA crisis to reignite investment cycle in the economy
- → Promoting self-employment through incentives under Start-up and stand-up India
- → Better safety at workplace and in public places so that women can avail of the employment opportunities that they let go due to safety concerns
- → Implementing shops and establishments acts and reforming labour laws can further boost employment opportunities
- → Improving infrastructure to ~~incr~~ decrease cost of doing business and promote exports

Thus structural changes brought about by disruptive technologies can be handled through a variety of skilling & employment generation programmes. Moreover better social security is needed for those who are left out of the workforce.

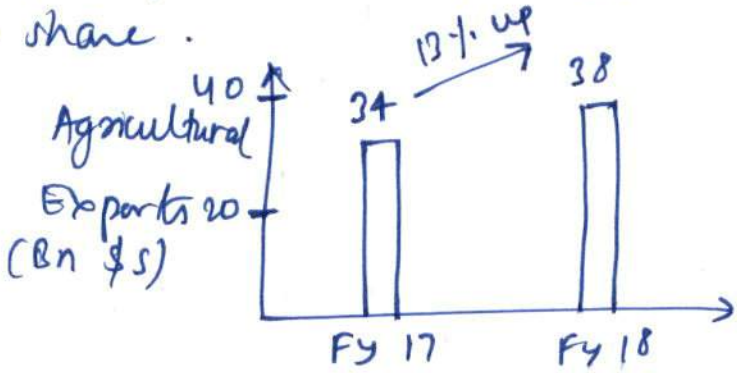
Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. India's trade policy in agriculture, marred by ad-hocism and pro-consumer bias, has constrained realization of export potential, and prevented the farmers from reaping the benefits. Examine the statement and discuss ways, including government initiatives, to improve agricultural exports.

(250 words) 15

तदर्थता और उपभोक्ता समर्थक पक्षपात से प्रभावित, कृषि में भारत की व्यापार नीति ने निर्यात सामर्थ्य की प्राप्ति को बाधित किया है तथा किसानों को लाभ उठाने से रोका है। इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए और सरकारी पहलों सहित कृषि निर्यात में सुधार लाने के तरीकों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Agriculture contributes significantly to India's external trade and it has the potential to further increase its share.



However, India's trade policy in agriculture has prevented farmers from reaping the full potential of agricultural exports.

1) Ad-Hocism

→ Arbitrary restrictions on export which hinders the farmers from realizing a fair income
— eg on Sugar and Pulses

→ Setting up Minimum Export Prices that are often unreasonable and concompetitive

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ High export duties on certain items to discourage exports
→ Stocking limits under essential commodities act that hurt bulk exporters

2) Pro-consumer Bias

→ Low import duties (eg on Oil Palm) leads to flooding of cheap imports into the country and hurts domestic farmers
→ Unreasonable import policy (eg pulse import) even when there was domestic oversupply to aid consumer
→ Inflation-control as the key policy pivot of RBI
→ Low MSPs further show pro-consumer bias
→ No import limits/restriction in glut periods are imposed just like export restrictions during low-supply periods

Ways to Improve agricultural exports

→ Lowering export duties
→ Further strengthening and broad-basing Merchandise Export From India (MEIS) scheme
→ No export restrictions, and a firm commitment towards the same
→ Support to improve quality of exports, eg

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- → Testing Facilities
- → Irradiation / Quarantine facilities

→ Market support and linkages, particularly with the aim of diversifying India's export basket

→ Investing in Food Processing industries (with both public and private capital)

- → Mega Food Parks
- → Incentive for food processing industries
- → Cold Chain Network
- → 24X7 hassle free shipment at ports

This can improve value addition in the agri-industry

→ Negotiating favorable Free Trade Agreements (eg at RCEP)

→ Promoting Negotiable warehouse Receipts, deepening futures and options markets and deepening the agri-credit penetration.

These steps, along with awareness generation about various govt. schemes can help improve India's agri-export. Moreover, a dedicated Agri-export Policy & Action Plan also is the need of the hour.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. Is currency exchange rate a suitable measure of relative economic performance of countries? Despite improving macro-economic fundamentals, trade deficit in India continues to widen. Bring out the factors responsible for this situation. **(250 words) 15**

क्या मुद्रा विनिमय दर देशों के सापेक्ष आर्थिक प्रदर्शन की एक उपयुक्त माप है? मैक्रो इकनॉमिक फंडामेंटल्स (समष्टि-आर्थिक आधारों) में सुधार के बावजूद, भारत में व्यापार घाटा निरंतर बढ़ा है। इस स्थिति के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों को प्रस्तुत कीजिए।

The currency exchange rate is often used as a barometer of relative economic and trade performance of countries.

→ A strong and appreciating currency implies strong domestic economy, high inward FDI/FII flows, robust current account situation and an affirmation in the relative value of currency as a 'safe haven' asset
eg USA, Swiss Franc

→ A weak and depreciating currency implies a weak domestic economy, current account deficits, outward flow of FDI/FII money and low faith in the stability of currency
eg Chinese Yuan and Indian Rupee (as has been stated by many analysts recently)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

However, exchange rate is not a suitable measure of relative economic performance of countries, because

→ It is subject to global factors
eg conflict in middle east
US-Iran tussle
US-North Korea Tussle

→ It is subject to policies of other central Banks
→ eg US Federal Reserve is on a rates hike cycle, thus more funds are entering USA to chase higher returns

→ It is dependent upon demand & supply for currency & not the aggregate demand & supply in economy, that is the true barometer of economic growth

This is all the more evident in the case of India, where despite improving macro-economic fundamentals, currency continues to depreciate.

Factors Responsible for the situation

→ Rising oil price ($80 per barrel now) leading to widening current Account

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Deficit (2.4% in Q1 FY18)

→ Interest Rate hikes by the US Federal Reserve

→ US-IRAN Nuclear deal failure builds uncertainty in global crude oil supply situation, Crude oil is an engine of economic growth

→ Trade war between USA and China with retaliatory tariffs

→ Some of the tariffs by USA are also directed at India (eg Aluminium)

→ Widening trade deficit due to low competitiveness of Indian products in global markets.

However, as economic survey points out, Indian Currency is overvalued in Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) terms, where it appreciated by ~20% between 2014-2017, before falling by about 10%. Thus India should focus more on increasing its ease of doing business and reducing its fossil fuel dependence to promote a more stable currency.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. It will take much more than relief packages to address the problems being faced by the sugar industry in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत में चीनी उद्योग द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं को दूर करने के लिए राहत पैकेज से आगे और कुछ करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India is the largest producer and consumer of sugar in India and Sugarcane is the most prominant cash crop in the country. Despite the importance of the sugar industry, it continues to face multiple problems.

Problems faced by sugar Industry

→ Low economics of scale
- Sugarcane loses sugar content fast after harvesting
- But poor road network implies that sugar mills must be located close to the farming area
- Leading to a large number of small mills

→ Old Technology
- Poor technology upgradation
- High energy usage

→ Poor marketing of byproducts
- Bagasse based co-generation not harnessed to its full potential
- Ethanol production not sufficient

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

to meet domestic needs

→ Large Arrears
→ Revenues of the mills are not enough to pay the farmers at State Administered Prices (SAP)

→ Poor Pricing structure for Cane
→ States announce SAP over and above the MSP for populism
→ SAP often unscientific and unreasonable
→ Also promotes cane-based monoculture that is water-intensive

→ Ad-hocism in trade policy
→ Frequent restrictions on sugar exports

→ High Debt Burden
→ Due to poor realization from output and late reimbursement by the government offtake under PDS

(*) The government announced relief package recently for sugar industry, but it will take much more than that to revive the industry:-

→ Setting fair MSPs based upon true cost and reasonable profits
→ abolishing SAP and 'bonuses'

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Incentivizing farmers to move to other cash crops to improve water use efficiency in agriculture
→ Promoting good, low-sugar diets among citizens
→ Technological upgradation of plants
→ Better rural road infrastructure so that larger plants can be established
→ Higher procurement of ethanol from refineries to take ethanol blending in dieses from 3% to 20% (targeted)
→ Promoting bagasse-based co-generation
→ Removing export restrictions
→ Proceeding cautiously in using essential commodities act when sugar prices spike

Thus it will take a variety of measures to revive the sugar industry in India. However policy makers should also think of a long term approach that promotes judicious intake of sugar.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. NAPCC, almost 10 years old and formulated with lofty objectives, has not served as the best answer to cope with the impacts of climate change. Critically discuss. **(250 words) 15**

लगभग 10 वर्ष पुराने और उत्कृष्ट लक्ष्यों के साथ सूत्रबद्ध, NAPCC ने जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों का सामना करने संबंधी सर्वोत्तम अनुक्रिया के रूप में कार्य नहीं किया है। आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

National Action Plan on climate change was formulated as an enabling plan to take India ~~ia~~ to a low-carbon growth path. ~~However~~ It consisted of 8 sub missions:-

→ National Solar Mission
→ National Water Mission
→ National Mission on Sustainable Habitats
→ Green India Mission
→ National Plan for strategic knowledge on climate change
→ National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture
→ National Mission on Energy Enhanced Efficiency.

However, the Action Plan has not served the best answer to cope with climate change impacts :-

1) NAPCC was to be supported by a National Adaptation Fund for climate change (NAFCC); However adaptation plans

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

financed by NAFCC have not ~~be~~ made any visible impact

→ The National Clean Energy Fund established to fund clean energy projects used only ~~10~~ 20% (10,000 crore of 50,000 crore) of funds and then it was subsumed within GST compensation fund

→ The progress on making urban habitations green and sustainable has been inadequate

→ Agriculture still remains unsustainable characterized by high fertilizer use and irrational power and water use

→ Himalayan Ecosystem is degrading and stress was seen during the 2013 Uttarakhand tragedy

→ Species and Habitat loss are accelerating

→ Forest quality is degrading

At the same time, there have been some notable successes

→ National solar mission has been expanded and it has already achieved its original goal of ~~20 MW~~ 20GW

→ National Mission on Energy Enhanced

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Efficiency (NMEEE) has been successful particularly the PAT scheme and UJALA scheme

However, by and large, there has been more failures than successes, particularly in promoting sustainable ecosystems and reducing fossil fuel use.

Thus India needs to redouble its efforts to achieve the lofty goals of NAPCC, and also to meet its INDC and SDG targets.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. Proliferation of nuclear weapons and the threat of their use are key concerns for global security nonetheless existing international arrangements seem to be ineffective. Comment. Also, identify the salient features of India's policy in this context and discuss whether India should join the NPT in the current form. **(250 words) 15**

परमाणु हथियारों का प्रसार और उनके उपयोग का खतरा वैश्विक सुरक्षा की प्रमुख चिंताएं हैं, इसके बिना वर्तमान अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यवस्था अप्रभावी प्रतीत होती है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संदर्भ में भारत की नीति की प्रमुख विशेषताओं को चिन्हित कीजिए तथा चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या भारत को वर्तमान प्रारूप वाले NPT में सम्मिलित होना चाहिए।

Recent diplomatic standoff between USA and North Korea and risk of a nuclear war emphasize the threat that nuclear weapons pose to global security.

Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

→ Pakistan and North Korea have allegedly acquired their nuclear weapons through proliferation networks

→ AQ Khan Network of Pakistan is alleged to be a key proliferator

→ The threat of these weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) falling into the hands of terror organizations like ISIS and Al Qaeda remains due to possession of nuclear weapons by unstable countries like Pakistan

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Threat of their use

→ The leaders of North Korea and USA both threatened to use their nuclear weapons on each other recently

→ Credible Deterrance and Mutually Assured Destruction are pivoted on the threat of use of nuclear weapons if the need be

→ USA, in 1950s, in its theory of Brinkmanship also implied the threat of use of nuclear weapons as a key element of its diplomacy

→ Pakistan's leadership often points to this threat

Existing international arrangements consist of Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and CTBT as well as IAEA inspection of civil nuclear facilities. Further Nuclear Suppliers' group aims to reduce the flow to nuclear fuel to unreliable nations.

These arrangements have been ineffective in →

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Reducing proliferation (Pakistan & N Korea)
→ Reducing tests of weapons (N Korea)
→ Reducing threat of use
→ In promoting nuclear disarmament

Salient features of India's Policy

→ Credible deterrance based upon nuclear triad → Missiles (Agni)
→ Submarines (Sagarika)
→ Planes (Su-30, ~~Sukhoi~~ Mirage)
→ No first use policy
→ Complete commitment to non-proliferation
→ Advocacy of nuclear disarmament

India's joining NPT in current form

→ Current form does recognize any nation other than the PS of UNSC as nuclear weapon status
→ so such nations must give up nuclear weapons
→ This is detrimental to India's security
→ So India should not join in current form.

India should join if it is recognized as a nuclear weapon state and at the same time it should help build internation consensus on complete disarmament

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. The maritime security domain requires collective multilateral and regional cooperation to combat non traditional threats. Discuss in the context of threats in the Western Indian Ocean and the recent amendments in the Djibouti Code of Conduct.

(250 words) 15

समुद्री सुरक्षा प्रक्षेत्र (डोमेन) गैर-परंपरागत खतरों का सामना करने हेतु सामूहिक बहुपक्षीय और क्षेत्रीय सहयोग की मांग करता है। पश्चिमी हिंद महासागर में खतरों और जिबूती आचरण संहिता में हालिया संशोधन के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

The maritime domain is facing many non-conventional threats. The involvement of ~~the~~ terrorist group and other international groups further exacerbate the problems.

The non-traditional threats are

→ Piracy (eg in Malacca strait and arond the Horn of Africa)

→ Smuggling → of currency notes
↳ of contraband goods
↳ of Narcotics and psycotropic substances
↳ of arms (Sir Creek Area)

→ Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing ~~bu~~ (IUU) by armed gangs

→ International Human Trafficking networks

→ Civil War in Indian Ocean littoral states (eg Yemen) that can spill over to

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maritime domain.

These threats can be better handled through regional and multilateral involvement as emphasized in the Djibouti Code of Conduct.

→ The open seas are free for navigation by all and this right is protected by UNCLOS

→ Any threat to vital sea lanes of communications (SLOCs) can disrupt global trade

→ The perpetrator are often international groups ~~and~~ with terror links

→ Such threats increase the risk and cost of insurance for all nations

→ Checking smuggling of narcotics, currency notes and contrabands can reduce funding sources for illegal and terrorist organizations and help counter the menace of terrorism

India can play a pivotal role in dealing with non-conventional

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threats and as a net security provider in the Indian ocean region.

Not only its own naval assets and nationals are under threat, but West Asian nations are increasingly looking towards India to step up its role in the western Indian ocean. India should rise up to the occasion and take a leading role in regional & multilateral fora towards countering these threats.

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20. India's space programme was initiated with the vision of utilising outer space for peaceful purposes, however with changing times it has the potential to play a significant role in strengthening security capabilities of India. Discuss with adequate examples. **(250 words) 15**

भारत का अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम, शांतिपूर्ण उद्देश्यों हेतु बाह्य अंतरिक्ष का उपयोग करने के दृष्टिकोण के साथ आरंभ किया गया था, हालांकि बदलते समय के साथ इसमें भारत की सुरक्षा क्षमताओं को मजबूत बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाने की क्षमता है। यथोचित उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

The foundation of India's Space Programme was laid in 1950s, with Dr. Vikram Sarabhai playing a leading role in the infant stages of the programme. ~~India's~~ The vision was to utilize space for peaceful purposes and India has delivered on the promise

- → Various INSAT series satellites for satellite communication
- → GSAT series for remote sensing
- → Cartosat and Risat for surface mapping
- → NAVIC for positioning data
- → Oceansat for cyclone prediction
- → various launch vehicles that are now helping launch satellites for other nations (PSLV, GSLV, GSLV MK III)
- → Chandrayaan & Mangalyaan

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However the current times are characterized by increasing security threats to the country. Moreover, weaponization of space (China has already developed an Anti-Satellite (ASAT) weapon). As such, India's space programme has the potential to play a significant role in strengthening the security capabilities of India:-

(i) Use of satellites like Cartosat to keep an eye on the terror camps across India's borders in Pakistan, Myanmar and Bangladesh

(ii) Use of earth observation tools to observe military buildup by hostile countries (eg China).

(iii) Monitor troop deployments across borders

(iv) Monitor hotbeds to terrorism like Pakistan-Afganistan Border

(v) Building secure and encrypted communication ability for military use and for co-ordination with defence partners (eg USA)

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(vi) Provide live satellite feeds during terror-attack like situations (USA allegedly used satellites to keep watch on Osama Bin Laden's Abottabad compound)

(vii) Develop own anti-satellite capability in clandestine manner with ~~the~~ ~~a~~ a no-first use policy.

Thus India's space programme, although for peaceful purposes, can be used to enhance security capabilities of the nation. Policy support and funding should be provided to ISRO for the same.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1071)

Name of Candidate	Deepak Kumar Dubey		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	74631
Center	ORN	Date	18/9/18

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
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14	15	
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

M-1/4, Plot No-A-12/13, Ist Floor, Ansal Building, Dr. Vidya Sagar Homeopathic Clinic, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. It has been argued that over the years there has been a steady decline in the efficacy of Parliament as an institution of accountability. Analyse and also suggest appropriate measures to address the relevant concerns.

(150 words) 10

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि वर्षों से एक जवाबदेह संस्था के रूप में संसद की प्रभावकारिता में निरंतर गिरावट आई है। विश्लेषण कीजिए और साथ ही, प्रासंगिक चिंताओं का समाधान करने हेतु उचित उपाय भी सुझाइए।

The Parliament, or the legislative branch of the Government plays a key role in ensuring the accountability of the executive. But for that to happen, parliament must itself be accountable to the citizens. The reasons for decline in accountability are :-

- Declining Working Days :- From 100-110 in 1950s to 60-70 in recent times
- Frequent Disruptions
- Criminalization of politics :- 34% of Lok Sabha has criminal antecedents this leads to poor decorum
- Partisan functioning of parliamentary committees and their declining role

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Results
- → erosion of public trust
- → poor scrutiny of bills
- → Budget passed without discussion
- → Increase in ordinances
- → poor quality of debate
- → Resorting to money bills to bypass rajya sabha

Measures to address the issue

- → Set minimum number of working days
- → Provide for compensatory days and compensatory sessions
- → Speaker/Chairman can resort to disciplinary actions
- → Media should highlight the issue prominently
- → Foregoing salary if day/session washed out
- → Better co-ordination between the ruling party & opposition through all-party meetings prior to sessions.

These measures can help restore the accountability of parliament.

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2. Panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) are simultaneously a remarkable success and a staggering failure, depending on the goalposts against which they are evaluated. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

पंचायती राज संस्थाएं (PRIs) एक उल्लेखनीय सफलता होने के साथ-साथ स्तब्धकारी विफलता भी हैं, यह केवल इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि इनका मूल्यांकन किन लक्ष्यों के आधार पर किया जा रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

PRIs were given a constitutional status by 73rd & 74th amendments, thus giving a concrete shape to Gandhi-Ji's vision and Article 40's intent. However, they have been both successes and failures ~~as~~ depending upon yardsticks used.

Resounding success

→ Brought democracy to grassroots
→ Promoted women participation (44% of PRI representatives are women)
→ Promoted the participation of marginalized sections like SCs & STs
→ PESA has been successful in developing self-governance commensurate with tribal customs, culture and practices
→ Allowed gram sabhas to take up developmental projects as per its priorities

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Helped panchayats assert their control over local natural resources (eg Vedanta-Niyamgiri Episode)

Staggering Failure

→ The functions under 243-G and 243-W have not been devolved in entirety, thus autonomy remains a pipe dream

→ Lack of funds curtails the development activities

→ Bureaucracy creating roadblocks

→ 'Panchayat Pati' syndrome exists side by side with woman empowerment

→ Politicization of elections on partisan lines

→ Lack of regular meeting, poor record keeping, poor attendance in gram sabha meeting

→ Lack of social audit & Jan sunwai
⇒ deprivation of traditional resources and alienation of land continues.

Thus, PRIs have had both successes and failures.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) is more than just the keeper of our national accounts; it is also a conscience-keeper and a watchdog. Examine the statement in light of making the auditing process more effective. (150 words) 10

भारत का नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) केवल हमारे राष्ट्रीय खातों के रक्षक से कहीं अधिक है; यह अंत:करण का संरक्षक और वॉचडॉग (प्रहरी) भी है। लेखापरीक्षा प्रक्रिया को और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के आलोक में इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए।

The constitution under Article 148 to 151 provides for the office of CAG, who as per Dr. Ambedkar was envisaged as the 'most important officer' under Govt. of India. CAG is the guardian of public purse and ensures the accountability of the executive to legislature in the field of financial expenditure. However he is more than a keeper of our national accounts

→ The can do performance and propriety audit other than legal and statutory audit. The performance audit helped expose lacunae in ~~CWG~~ CWG organization and NHM performance

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→ CAG audits have helped expose various scams like CWG and 2G scams

→ CAG ensures that executive is observing the canons of probity, efficiency and economy in its expenditure

→ CAG acts as the friend, philosopher and guide of Public accounts committee (PAC) that keeps a further check on the corruption and inefficiencies as well as wasteful expenditure of the executive.

It is due to these reasons that CAG is called the conscience-keeper of nation.

Auditing can be made more effective by

- → Allowing CAG access to all relevant files, that are currently denied
- → Updating the audit manual as per the needs of the time
- → Better training of Audit officers
- → Bringing autonomous bodies and PPPs within CAG's ambit.

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4. The concern for transparency in political funding is at odds with the Electoral Bond Scheme notified by the government. Critically discuss.

(150 words) 10

राजनीतिक वित्तपोषण में पारदर्शिता की चिंता सरकार द्वारा अधिसूचित चुनावी बॉण्ड योजना से असंगत है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

The Political funding in India is mired by lack of transparency. As per ADR, between 2004-05 and 2014-15, almost 3/4th of the funding of political parties was from anonymous sources. Lack of transparency is a grave concern because

→ The donors expect quid-pro-quo
→ Black money vitiates the electoral process
→ Poor transparency aids the entry of money and muscle power into politics and leads to its criminalization
→ It erodes the trust of the voters in electoral process in particular and in democracy in general
→ Thwarts the entry of clean people into politics.

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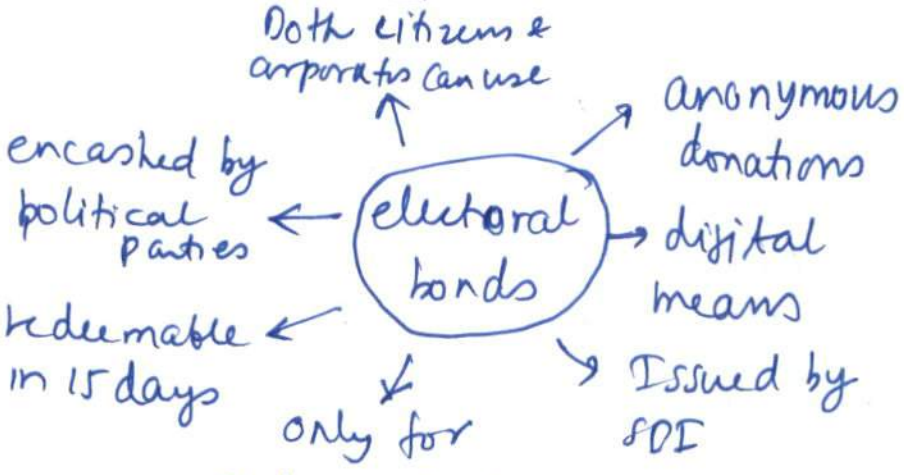
In this context, electoral bonds were introduced recently



However, there are various lacunae in the scheme :-

- Anonymous donations deprives the voters of the rights to know donors
- Shell companies can be created solely for this purpose
- 7.5% limit on donations by political parties removed ⇒ disservice to company shareholders
- Donations below 2000 can still be made in cash, allowing anonymous donations. Thus the scheme must be amended and made more transparent

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5. Lobbying in India exists in a perennially grey legal and policy arena. In this context, discuss the need to formally recognize and regulate lobbying in India. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में लॉबिंग हमेशा से ही विधिक और नीतिगत क्षेत्र में अपरिभाषित रूप से विद्यमान रही है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में लॉबिंग को औपचारिक रूप से मान्यता प्रदान करने और विनियमित करने की आवश्यकता की चर्चा कीजिए।

Lobbying has been recognized as a key method used by pressure groups, along with electioneering and propagandizing. However, unlike the other 2 methods, lobbying is banned in India.

Lobbying means hobnobbing with the ministers and other ruling party leaders with the aim of securing executive actions and policies suitable to the interest of lobbyists. In USA, lobbyists spend millions of dollars to ~~per~~ influence the government.

~~While~~ lobbying in India occurs in subtle ~~groupe~~ ways and often involves :→

(i) Gifts and entertainment

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(ii) Kickbacks
(iii) Promises of corporate donations as a quid-pro-quo
(iv) Promise of political support mobilization

To regulate lobbying a need for regularizing it has been suggested.

① Regularizing it will help :-
(i) Bring those activities above the table and in public eyes
(ii) Better regulate it, for example by putting limits on gifts that can be exchanged
(iii) Corporates influence policies by legitimate means.

However, lobbying ~~could~~ might also lead to legitimization of corruption. It can bias the executive and take away objectivity, accountability & public interest from government actions. Thus a wider public debate is needed on the issue before proceeding further.

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6. More than a decade after it was passed, the implementation of the RTI Act leaves much to be desired. Comment. Also discuss the issues associated with the recent proposals to amend the RTI Act. **(150 words) 10**

पारित होने के एक दशक से भी अधिक समय बाद, RTI अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन में काफी कुछ वांछित है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। RTI अधिनियम में संशोधन के हालिया प्रस्तावों से जुड़े मुद्दों की भी चर्चा कीजिए।

RTI act, 2005 represented a move from culture of secrecy and opacity to a culture of transparency and accountability. It enabled the citizens to ask questions to the official dom about the utilization of public money and promised to make the government citizen-centric.

However, various lacunae exist in the implementation of the act

→ Too many restrictions on the kinds of information that cannot be disclosed under section 8

→ The promise of section 4 → self disclosure remains largely unfulfilled

→ The state of digitization of information remains unsatisfactory, further hindering

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its efficacy

→ Undue delays, and refusal of PIOs to give information, or giving erroneous information

→ Huge pendency at state and central information commissions that hardly work at their sanctioned strength (1 CIC + 10 IC)

→ Lack of awareness, particularly in rural areas

→ Poor whistleblower protection → 50 + RTI activists killed in last 12 years

Recent proposals

→ Further expand exemptions under section 8; and allow official secrets acts to ~~override~~ be overridden by section 8.

This will

- Increase information denials
- Decrease accountability of officials
- Might increase corruptions
- Lead to more files being marked 'secret'
- Lower transparency.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. Critically discuss the evolving policy on reservation in promotions in India with special focus on its ability to meet the objectives of social justice. **(150 words) 10**

सामाजिक न्याय के उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने की इसकी क्षमता पर विशेष बल देते हुए भारत में प्रोन्नति में आरक्षण पर विकसित हो रही नीति की समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Dr. Ambedkar argued that disadvantaged classes can compete on merit only if upper castes and classes give 'gracious concesions' to lower castes so that they can over time compete on an equal basis.

Thus 15% reservation for SCs and 7.5% reservation for STs was introduced in ~~Parliament, state Govt~~ Govt. Jobs. Similarly, reservation in proportion to population was provided in Parliament and state legislatures.

Evolving Policy

→ While Reservations were initially provided for 10 years, they have been extended time and again, and made applicable to promotions

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Post Mandal Commission, they have been extended to OBCs; but in Indra Sawhney case, SC observed that their should be no reservation in promotions

→ In Nagraj Case (2006), the petitioner contended that by 75th, 81st, 82nd and 85th amendments, the centre has in essence, negated the Indra Sawhney guidelines

→ The SC disagreed, and allowed the centre to proceed with reservations in promotions, provided it can ensure that (a) efficiency will not be affected (b) it can present quantifiable data on representation of disadvantaged classes in services.

With (a) & (b) not being fulfilled, reservation in promotion remains stuck. Balancing social Justice with efficiency will remain the key to the success of reservation on promotions.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. India produces enough food for its people, but not all people get enough food to eat. Discussing this paradox, highlight some of the major interventions taken in the past few years in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

भारत अपने लोगों के लिए पर्याप्त खाद्यान उत्पादित करता है, फिर भी सभी लोगों को खाने के लिए पर्याप्त भोजन नहीं मिलता है। इस विरोधाभास की चर्चा करते हुए, इस संबंध में विगत कुछ वर्षों में उठाए गए कुछ प्रमुख कदमों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

India's foodgrain production stands at 270 million metric tonnes, enough to feed its people, and also to export a part of the produce. Moreover horticulture production is in excess of 300 million tonnes, promising nutritional diversity to people.

Yet, the distribution of food as well as nutrition is uneven

→ As per NFHS-4, 38% of India's children are stunted and 36% are underweight, clearly pointing to poor nutrition & food access

→ 37 crore people are under BPL, as per Rangrajan Committee

→ India ranks 100 out of 118 countries

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

In ~~Hunger~~ the World Hunger Index.

Reasons for poor access

- Poor accountability of officials
- Poor PDS coverage
- Focus on grains, not nutrition
- Leakages from PDS (Shanta Kumar committee)
- corruption
- Biometrics
  - non-matching of Adhaar
- some states lack capacity

Major Interventions

→ National Food Security Act
- 50% of urban & 25% of rural households covered (25 kg grains per family)

→ Antyodaya Anna Yojana

→ PDS digitization & linkage with Adhaar

→ Mid Day Meal Scheme
+ eggs and fruits being included

→ Decentralized procurement in PDS

→ Strengthening of ICDS (Anganwadi programme for better nutrition

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9. India sees Indian Ocean as not just a water body, but a global stage for continued economic, social, and cultural dialogue. Elaborate.**(150 words) 10**

भारत, हिंद महासागर को मात्र एक जल निकाय के रूप में ही नहीं, बल्कि निरंतर आर्थिक, सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक संवाद के एक वैश्विक मंच के रूप में भी देखता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

The very name of 'Indian' Oceans shows the importance of the ocean for India. It is not just a water body, but a key enabler of continued economic, social and cultural dialogue.

(1) Economic :- 50% of world trade and 75% of oil trade flows through it

→ It is key to economic prosperity of Indian Ocean littoral nations

→ Blue-Economy further allows littorals to sustainable use ocean resources - fisheries, oil and gas, minerals like polymetalic nodules & so on.

(1) Social :- The prosperity enabled by

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trade allows India to meaningfully improve the lives of rural population, MSME workers, fishermen, port workers, seafarers, SEZ workers and so on. It enables Indian society to embrace globalization and associated values.

Cultural

→ Project Mausam and ~~Naso Space~~ Spice Route initiatives strengthen the cultural connect with Indian Ocean littoral nations

→ Africa, ASEAN, SAARC and IORA nations all share cultural connect with India through age old civilizational ties enabled by Indian ocean.

Thus Indian Ocean plays a multi-faceted role in India's diplomacy and worldview and its potential must be suitably harnessed.

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10. In the context of India taking greater responsibility in management of the global commons, there has been a shift in India's climate change negotiation stance. In this context, analyze the evolution of India's climate policy. (150 words) 10

भारत द्वारा ग्लोबल कॉमंस के प्रबंधन में बृहत्तर दायित्व ग्रहण करने के परिप्रेक्ष्य में, भारत के जलवायु परिवर्तन संबंधित वार्ता दृष्टिकोण में परिवर्तन आया है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत की जलवायु नीति के विकास का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India currently emits 6% of Green House Gases (compared to 15% for China and 28% for USA). Moreover historically developed nations have contributed a lion's share of GHGs currently in atmosphere.

In this context India has historically argued that :-

(i) Developed nations have more culpability for climate change

(ii) They should pay for mitigation & adaptation actions by developing countries

(iii) India should be allowed to enjoy the fruits to growth without being

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shackled by onerous environmental commitments.

However, recently there has been a shift in India's climate negotiation stance :-

(i) India has accepted common, But differentiated Responsibilities, within the overall limits of Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC)

(ii) India is willing to substantially reduce its emission intensity (33-35% from 2005 levels by 2030) provided developed nations provide finance and technology

(iii) India is willing to take leadership in global Clean Energy architecture (eg International Solar Alliance).

Thus ~~India's~~ evolving contours of climate policy has the potential to propel India to a position of low-carbon economy

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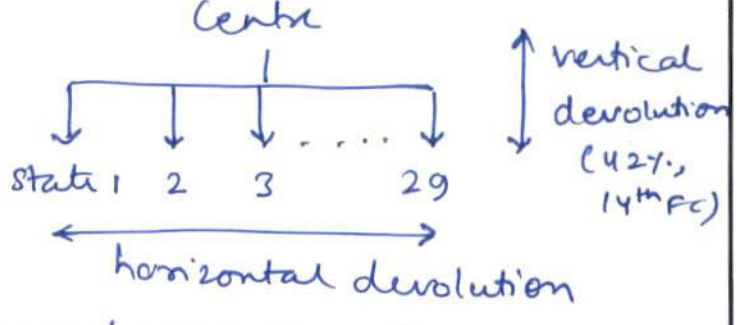
11. Highlighting the constitutional role of the Finance Commission (FC), discuss the issues which are being debated w.r.t. terms of reference (ToR) of the 15th Finance Commission. **(250 words) 15**

वित्त आयोग (FC) की संवैधानिक भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उन मुद्दों की चर्चा कीजिए जिनपर 15वें वित्त आयोग के विचारार्थ विषयों (ToR) के संदर्भ में बहस की जा रही हैं।

Finance Commission (FC) has been established under article 280 of the constitution as the bulwark of Fiscal Federalism in India.

Its role is as follows

→ To recommend vertical and horizontal devolution of states' share of taxes from the divisible pool.



→ To recommend measures to augument the consolidated fund (CF) of states to augument the resources of panchayati raj institutions

→ To recommend grants in aid to states (article 275)

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→ To advise on such matter as referred to it by the president.

Thus, FC's role in ensuring that states have adequate resources to carry out developmental activities is paramount.

(*) Each FC is guided by a TOR in its final recommendation. However, various issues have been raised on the TOR given to 15th FC

1) Reference to the fact that it should use 2011 population in dividing the devolution
   - 14th FC gave 17.5 weight to 2011 population and 10% weight to 2010
   - Southern states argue that it penalizes the population limiting measures taken by them since 1971

2) Other issues

→ Centre has pointed out in the TOR that FC should consider the fact that it has already sanctioned 42% devolution (14th FC) and it amounts

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to rethink on centre's part that 14th FC has given too much

→ TOR also points to the use of populist measures by states, but states argue that (i) populism is subjective (ii) Centre also resorts to it

→ TOR says that FC should consider states' progress on Ease of Doing Business reforms; but EODB index may not be suited without alteration to Indian context

Thus various points in TOR, as per states, can bias the final recommendation of FC in its award. It is therefore needed that

- → FC does reward population control
- → takes an unbiased view
- → Upholds its independence
- → Ensures fiscal justice

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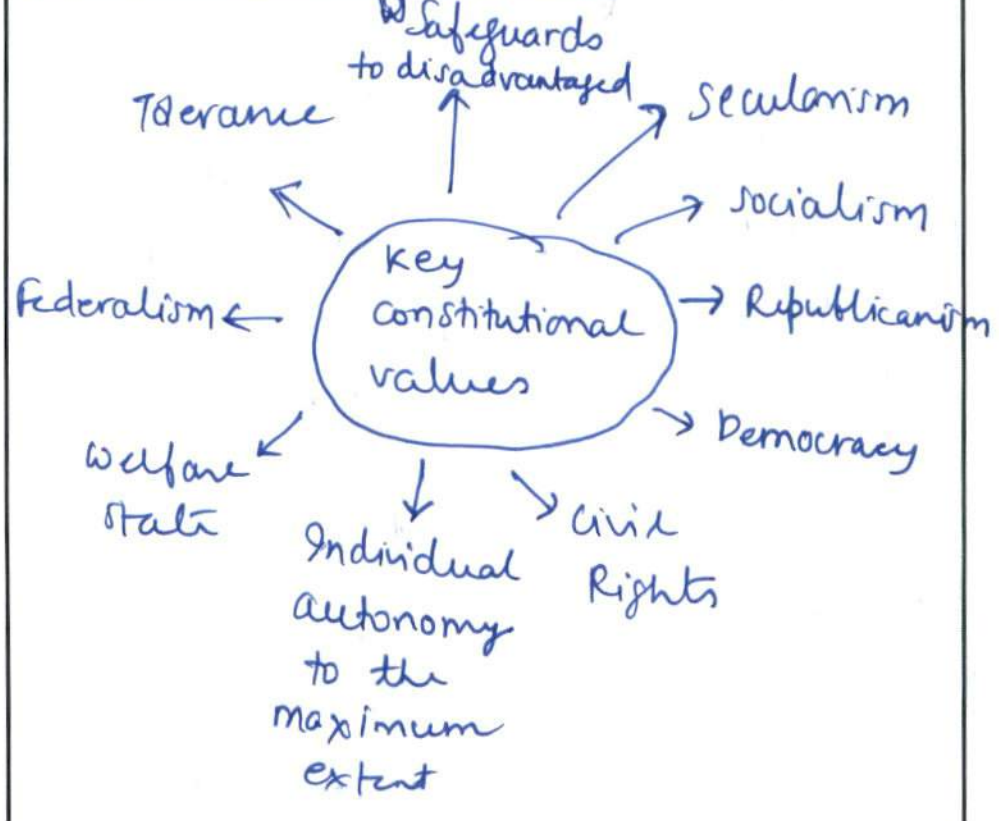
12. The spirit of the constitution of India represents a synthesis of Indian values, democratic and socialist movements in west and our independence movement. Elucidate. **(250 words) 15**

भारतीय संविधान की भावना भारतीय मूल्यों, पश्चिम के लोकतांत्रिक व समाजवादी आंदोलनों एवं हमारे स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन के संश्लेषण को निरूपित करती है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Post-Independence, the constitution-making process was an exercise to ensure that its spirit represents ethos that can guide the Indian society in decades to come. The spirit represents :-

(i) A synthesis of values



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(ii) Democratic and socialist movements in the west

→ French revolution inspired the ideals of liberty, equality & fraternity

→ American Independence movement and its Bill of rights inspired Fundamental Rights

→ Russian revolution inspired the socialist and welfare movement and the ideas of social, political & economic Justice

→ Welfare orientation also draws from socialist movement & Fabianism in UK and USSR

(iii) Independence Movement of India

→ Inspired the preamble, rights and directive principles

→ DPSPs have Gandhian as well as liberal-intellectual provisions guided by India's fight for a democracy

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→ Federalism and extensive power to states shows the desire to protect the Union from fissiparous tendencies.

→ Special provisions for various states (A. 370 & 371) and 5th & 6th schedule (A. 344) further show the concern for upliftment of disadvantaged sections & regions.

Thus it can be said that the spirit of constitution represents a synthesis of various inspirations. Constitution does a remarkable work of reflecting the ideas and India has, over last 70 years fiercely guarded those ideas.

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13. What is the importance of an independent judiciary in a democracy? Highlight the safeguards in our political-constitutional setup to ensure the independence of judiciary. **(250 words) 15**

लोकतंत्र में स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका का क्या महत्व है? न्यायपालिका की स्वतंत्रता सुनिश्चित करने हेतु हमारी राजनीतिक-संवैधानिक व्यवस्था में निहित रक्षोपायों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

A democracy is based upon the premise of government of the people, by the people and for the people (Abraham Lincoln). To ensure that people-centric premise of democracy is maintained, and to protect the people from the tyranny of executive + legislature, an independent judiciary is paramount.

The Importance of an Independent Judiciary is further amplified by the fact that it :-

→ Acts the the protector & defender of Fundamental Rights of Citizens

→ Allows fostering of wide civil liberties

→ Creates a culture of accountability in the other 2 organs of the

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government - Executive and legislature

→ Prevents the executive from arrogating the power of legislature and judiciary

→ Acts as an arbiter between centre-state & state-state disputes, thereby protecting federalism

→ Protects the ideals of Justice, liberty, equality and fraternity - Foundational values of our democracy

→ Protects the rights bestowed upon the most disadvantaged sections of the society - SCs, STs, minorities etc.

Our Politico-Constitutional Setup provides variety of safeguards to ensure judicial independence

→ Selection of Judiciary by itself, outside the interference of executive and legislature (exclusivity)

→ The power of judicial review under article 13

→ Fundamental Rights are sacrosanct

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and they can only be amended if they do not alter the basic structure of constitution (Article 32 as the most important article)

→ Security of Tenure

→ The process of impeachment is tedious and has multiple safeguards

→ Expenses of SC/HC charged to consolidated funds of centre/states

→ The power of courts to punish for contempt

→ Legislature cannot discuss Judicial conduct, except during impeachment motion

→ Salary of judges cannot be varied to their disadvantage

These factors ensure that Judiciary remains independent and functions ~~its~~ as per its mandate envisaged in the constitution.

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14. Even though Indian federalism has matured quite a bit, with states having far greater control of their economic and political management, serious structural problems still remain. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

यद्यपि भारतीय संघवाद काफ़ी हद तक परिपक्वता प्राप्त कर चुका है जहाँ राज्यों को अपने आर्थिक और राजनीतिक प्रबंधन पर पर्याप्त नियंत्रण है, तथापि गंभीर संरचनात्मक समस्याएं अब भी विद्यमान हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

The constitution envisages India as Union of states, with the centre as states are members of the federal structure. Federalism is ensured by the constitution, which clearly divides the spheres of legislative & executive competence of centre of states through 7th schedule.

Indian Federalism has matured over the last 70 years and now states have far greater control of their economic and political management, for example

→ The devolution of taxes from divisible pool has increased from 10% under 1st finance commission to 42% under 14th.

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→ The states have grown & nurtured their own sources of taxes over the years.

→ GST further increases tax flow to states

→ States have fiercely guarded their right to equitable fiscal resources as the controversy over TOR of 15th FC shows

→ Politically, the era of one-party government at centre and states has ended in 1960s; various regional parties have emerged; have become important in central coalitions; and have even given prime ministers

→ Various regional parties have succesfully steered the agitations for formation of separate states (eg ~~[illegible]~~ in Jharkhand & Telangana)

→ The demand for special ~~status~~ - Category status and political mobilization around the same also affirms it (Bihar, Andhra Pradesh)

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However, structural problems persist in Indian Federalism

→ Frequent imposition of President's rule guided by political calculations
→ States' dependence on central transfers (280) and grants (A.275)
→ Unequal division of powers under 7th schedule
→ Partisan roles of governors
→ Demand for various small & unviable states (Gorkhaland & Bodoland)
→ Various inter-state disputes
  - over territory (Maharashtra-Karnataka over Belgaum)
  - over river water (TN - Karnataka, Punjab-Haryana)

Inspite of these, the federalism can be further strengthened by lowering central interference and promoting the spirit of cooperative & competitive federalism.

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15. The recent amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 strike a balance between enforcement overzealousness and the need for stringent action against corrupt public servants. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

भ्रष्टाचार निवारण अधिनियम, 1988 में हालिया संशोधन प्रवर्तन के प्रति अतिउत्साह और भ्रष्ट लोक सेवकों के विरूद्ध कठोर कार्यवाही की आवश्यकता के बीच एक संतुलन कायम करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Corruption is one of the most serious concerns hindering the socio-economic development of India. With the aim of rooting out corruption from elected representatives and bureaucracy, prevention of corruption act was enacted in 1988. However its failure to meaningfully curb corruption has led to recent amendments that:

→ Increase the maximum sentence to bring corruption in heinous crimes category

→ Allow for confiscation of ill-gotten property by corrupt means even during trial

→ Allow for time-bound trial by special courts

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At the same time;

→ It mandates the prior approval of competent authority to proceed against a complaint

→ Extends the prior approval clause to retired bureaucrats

→ Allow for punishment for frivolous complaints

→ Covers both coersive + collusive corruption and provides reasonable indemnity to a citizen forced to pay bribe in a coercive manner

The amendment thus strikes a balance between

a) Need for stringent action against corrupt bureaucrats by increasing the sentence and by other means mentioned above

b) Enforcement overzealousness

(c) Protecting honest civil servants

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against frivolous complaints & overzealous investigation agencies is important to:-

→ Allow them to take decisions in public interest without fear or favour

→ Promote efficiency & effectiveness

→ guard against policy paralysis

→ Make administration agile, accountable and responsible

Thus the amendments are a right step in this direction. At the same time, amendments would be a nullity unless guilty are brought to the book by quick operationalization of fast track courts and speedy trial. Summary dismissal if proven guilty would deter corruption further & in a more effective manner

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16. Identifying the various issues plaguing the voluntary sector in India, discuss the need for a national accreditation agency to overcome them. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में स्वैच्छिक क्षेत्र को अवरुद्ध करने वाले विभिन्न मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए एवं इन पर काबू पाने हेतु एक राष्ट्रीय प्रमाणन एजेंसी की आवश्यकता की चर्चा कीजिए।

Voluntary sector ~~is~~ consists of various Non-Governmental organizations (NGOs) and Civil Society organizations (CSOs). Voluntary Sector plays a key role in

→ Upholding civil liberties (eg PUCL)
→ Democratic reforms (eg ADR and Lok Prahri)
→ In aiding the implementation of government programmes (eg Akshay Patra Foundation towards mid-day meal)
→ In protecting environment, animal rights etc.
→ In making government accountable, participatory, transparent and citizen centric.

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To promote the sector, Govt. had brought a National Policy on voluntary sector. However, various issues continue to plague the sector:-

- The prevalence of fraud NGOs
  - India has almost 20 lakh NGOs, a large number of which exist only on paper, do not file returns, and act as a conduit for black money
- Some NGOs have also been alleged to be working against national interests, guided by foreign influence (IB report)
- Governance deficit :- Report on activities, finances and audited accounts neither presented to donors, nor to the government
- Fomenting dissent :- Some NGOs have also been accused for fomenting manufactured decent and acting as

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front for LWE/terrorist organizations

⊖ Lack of finances :- Many genuine NGOs/CSOs are not able to mobilize finances from donors

⊖ Stringent regulations, particularly under FCRA

In this context, a national accreditation agency can rate credible NGOs. This will help

→ Mobilize finances for genuine NGOs

→ Companies select implementation partners for their CSR activities under section 135 of Companies act

→ Weed out fraudulent NGOs

→ Detect irregularities during accreditation investigation

→ Help crack down on front organizations and shell companies in Garb of NGOs.

Thus, an accreditation policy needs to be developed and credible, independent accreditation body needs to be urgently set up.

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17. Given the importance of a teacher in affecting the learning outcomes of children, discuss the problems in the present system of teacher training in India. How can these be addressed? **(250 words) 15**

बच्चों के अधिगम परिणाम को प्रभावित करने में शिक्षकों के महत्व को देखते हुए, भारत में शिक्षक प्रशिक्षण की वर्तमान प्रणाली में विद्यमान समस्याओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। इनसे कैसे निपटा जा सकता है?

India has invested significantly in school education aftr Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA) was operationalized in 2002.

SSA → Elementary education
→ Secondary education (RMSA)
→ Teachers' Training (TE)

However the stumbling block of SSA has been the teacher training component. The inadequacies in teacher training results in poor teaching-learning process and sub-par learning outcomes ~~that~~ as shown by various ASAR reports by Pratham.

The problems in present system of Teachers' Training are as follows:-

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- Qualification :- Qualification levels have been diluted and teachers' have been given time till 2019 to get mandatory minimum degree/ certification
- Infrastructure :- Teacher Training institutes lack minimum infrastructure like classrooms, digital labs, good teacher educators, good residential facilities.
- Quality of Training :- Modern pedagogic methods like use of digital tools, blended learning, immersive learning are not taught
- Funds :- Budgetary allocation by state governments have been insufficient
- Ad-hocism :- Reliance on para-teachers and unscientific regularization
- Work Ethics :- The training does not

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infuse good work ethics that later shows up as absenteeism and dereliction of duty.

These can be addressed by

- Mandatory certification exam and its renewal every 10 years as suggested by TSR Subramanian Panel.
- ~~Prudent~~ Upgrading infrastructure
- Setting up an apex teacher trainers' university
- Setting up an Indian Education Service, its officers can ~~be mandated to~~ act as administrators of teacher training institutes and enable institutional reforms
- Focus on new-age teaching methods (eg using Massive Open Online Courses)
- Infusion of good work ethics
- Training in values so that students also imbibe good values.
- Setting up performance based appraisal and reward system.

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18. The implementation of a scheme with such scale and benefit as Ayushman Bharat is likely to face many obstacles. Critically discuss. **(250 words) 15**

आयुष्मान भारत जैसी अति व्यापक और लाभकारी योजना के कार्यान्वयन में कई बाधाओं का सामना करना पड़ सकता है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

~~Issue after substantial invest~~

A Good healthcare system is a foundational element of a healthy and productive society and a key enabler of socio-economic transformation. However, the state of Indian healthcare leaves much to be desired even after massive investments under National Health Mission (NHM).

To revitalize the moribund healthcare system, Ayushman Bharat was proposed in the 2018 budget. It has 2 key components

(i) Demand side :- National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS) with the following components:-

- 5 lakh insurance per household per year
- on a family floater basis

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- covering secondary and tertiary care
- covering existing ailments
- for 10 crore families

(ii) Supply side :- Transforming 1.5 lakh sub-centres into Health and wellness centres (HWCs). They will :-

- Focus on primary care
- Focus on prevention of diseases and promote healthy lifestyles
- Act as referral units
- deliver family planning, maternal and child care facilities.

Thus, Ayushman bharat has the transformative potential to :-

- decrease out of pocket (OOP) expenses
- reduce illness-induced poverty & debt trap
- transform the quality of both private and public sector healthcare units
- increase insurance penetration
- decrease disease burden, most importantly of increasing non communicable

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diseases.

However, obstacles abound

→ The initial central allocation of ₹ 2000 crore may not be sufficient

→ Some states have insurance schemes with wider coverage (eg Bhamashah Scheme, Rajasthan)

→ States demand to vertically & horizontally expand the scheme & co-brand the schemes

→ Creating awareness

→ Transforming quality of care in public institutions

→ Regulating private sector malpractices by developing a schedule of standard costs

→ Selection of beneficiaries (method used)

While obstacles abound, Centre should further strengthen the scheme by

- let states expand them at own expense
- increase budgetary allocation
- Develop regulatory and adjudication bodies.

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19. Given the fact that India cannot match China's financial clout, it is seen to be diversifying the ways in which it can enhance cooperation and promote its diplomatic profile in Africa. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

इस तथ्य को देखते हुए कि भारत, चीन के वित्तीय प्रभुत्व की बराबरी नहीं कर सकता, यह देखा जा रहा है कि भारत ऐसे विविध तरीके अपना रहा है जिसके तहत यह अफ्रीका में सहयोग में वृद्धि और अपनी कूटनीतिक सक्रियता को बढ़ावा दे सके। चर्चा कीजिए।

India and Africa face common developmental challenges, for example sustainable development, poverty alleviation etc. Moreover, both represent young demographics. Thus scope for cooperation abounds.

But in its quest for deeper cooperation with Africa, India is confronted with the overwhelming presence of china in Africa, whose financial clout is hard to match.

→ China's trade with Africa is $200 Billion (vs. about $70 Billion for India)

→ China has built substantial current account surpluses and it is looking for places to invest; Africa fits the bill due to its substantial investment needs. Chinese FDI into

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Africa is $35 Billion (vs. about $15 Billion for India).

Thus India is diversifying the way it can increase co-operation with Africa; eg

1) Economic :- Investment in Oil & Gas Blocks (eg Mozambique, South Sudan, Egypt) and in manufacturing concerns (South Africa)

2) Infrastructure :- Asia Africa Growth Corridor with Japanese partnership

3) Cultural :- Project Mausam and New Spice Route Projects

4) Diplomatic :- 3 India-Africa summits have been organized; Recently AfDB held its summit at Gandhinagar

5) Technological & Capacity Building :-
- Through Indian Technical & Economic

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Cooperation (ITEC) & Pan-Africa e-network

6) Blue Economy :- Partnership with Seychelles and Mauritius

7) Anti-Piracy :- Indian Navy has emerged as a key Net security provider in the Indian ocean region east of Africa

8) Disaster Management & Humanitarian Cooperation: MoUs with various African countries.

Thus India's approach in Africa is characterized by a diversity in ways of enhancing cooperation & building diplomatic profile.

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20. Discuss how American sanctions on its adversaries affect India. Taking the example of CAATSA, analyse how India can shield its strategic interests in face of such sanctions. **(250 words) 15**

चर्चा कीजिए कि अमेरिका द्वारा अपने विरोधियों पर लगाए जाने वाले प्रतिबंध भारत को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करते हैं। CAATSA का उदाहरण लेते हुए, विश्लेषण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार भारत ऐसे प्रतिबंधों की स्थिति में अपने रणनीतिक हितों की रक्षा कर सकता है।

Recently USA has passed Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act of CAATSA:

- to impose economic and other sanction on its 'adversaries' like Russia, North Korea & Iran
- Prevent other countries from doing business and engaging with such countries.

Impact on India

- In the context of Russia, it makes it difficult to import military hardware from Russia
  eg - S-400 Triumf missiles
  Kamov Helicopters

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Russia is also building 1st 2 phases of Koodankulam plant and partnering with India on Rooppur Nuclear Plant in Bangladesh that may be jeopardized.

(7) In the context of Iran

- Iran is one of the largest sources of oil imports in recent times
- India-Iran are also co-operating on Chabahar Project that has a huge investment component ($1.5 Billion)
- It may hit INSTC and Ashgabat agreements in jeopardy
- The Iran-Pakistan-India Pipeline may be affected

(8) With respect to North Korea, India has little to worry.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Steps that India can take to shield itself

- Look for alternate arrangement with Iran
  - → Paying in rupee
  - → Oil for food
- Diversify oil imports
  - → Africa
  - → other Gulf countries
  - → USA
- Be assertive in conveying to USA its strategic autonomy
  - India's foreign policy is not subject to interference by another nation
- Work with Trump Administration to work around the imposed barriers
- Convey that India's military hardware purchase from USA are contingent to USA's support for India's purchases from Russia

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1103)

Name of Candidate	Deepak Kumar Dubey		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	74631
Center	ORN	Date	14/08/18

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. Technical solutions are necessary to augment the traditional methods of guarding the border. In this context, while mentioning the different components of Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS), discuss how it can help to address the gaps in the present system of border security. **(150 words) 10**

सीमा चौकसी की पारंपरिक विधियों का संवर्द्धन करने हेतु तकनीकी समाधान आवश्यक हैं। इस संदर्भ में, व्यापक एकीकृत सीमा प्रबंधन प्रणाली (कॉम्प्रिहेंसिव इंटीग्रेटेड बॉर्डर मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम: CIBMS) के विभिन्न घटकों का उल्लेख करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि सीमा सुरक्षा की वर्तमान व्यवस्था में विद्यमान कमियों को दूर करने में यह कैसे सहायता कर सकता है।

India heavily relies on traditional methods to guard its land frontiers. Traditional methods consist of :-

- ~~Fencing~~ Fencing wherever feasible given challenges of topography
- Flood lights along fence
- Frequent Patrolling by Border Security forces like BSF, ITBF, SSB
- Slow adoption of technology like night vision equipment.

However, traditional methods leave a wide number of gaps in border areas leading to incursions and infiltrations by terrorists (eg Pathankot + Uri attacks)

The gaps are:

→ Fencing is not feasible in mountains (J&K) ; Riverine tract (Bangladesh) and dense jungles (myanmar)

→ Free Movement Regime (Myanmar border)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Limited number of patrols due to manpower shortage
→ Human error in detecting movement of hostile elements
→ Inclement weather & low visibility
→ Gaps during night time.

To address these issues, CIBMS has been planned for India-Pakistan border. Its components are:-

- → Laser barriers
- → Night vision cameras
- → Ground Penetration Radars
- → Traditional battlefield radars
- → Sensors (ground based)

The adoption of these technologies along with better use of satellite imagery (eg Cartosat & RISat) & drones can help fill the gap in traditional methods by
- → eliminating human error
- → Patrolling limitations
- → covering inhospitable terrain.

Thus CIBMS and Border Protection Grid (India - Bangladesh) border should be completed in an expeditious manner to fill the lacunae in traditional methods.

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2. In comparison to conventional warfare, the possibility of successful deterrence against cyber warfare is both limited and complicated. Discuss. Also, elaborate upon India's preparedness in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

पारंपरिक युद्ध की तुलना में, साइबर युद्ध के विरुद्ध सफल भयादोहन (निवारण) की संभावना सीमित और जटिल दोनों है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में भारत की तैयारियों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

The realities of modern warfare need preparedness on multiple conventional and non-conventional theatres.

modern warfare → Traditional/ conventional theatre → Land, Sea, Air
modern warfare → non-conventional theatres → cyber, space

Thus ~~space~~ Cyberspace has emerged as a new front and calls for developing successful deterrence in the cyberspace. However, the options are limited as well as complicated :→

→ Cyber warfare transcends the traditional time and space boundaries. A rogue institution/person/state can launch attack from anywhere
→ The locations and perpetrators are hard to pinpoint
→ Increasing involvement of non-state actors like hacking groups

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ The tools (viruses, malware, ramomware, DDoS, worms) are evolving at a fast rate

→ Nation's capabilities and resources are limited and they often are not able to catch up with the progress in technology in cyber warfare

→ Ethical issues involved

India has taken multiple steps in its preparedness in this regard

→ NTRO is conducting cutting edge research in cyberspace

→ CERT-IN as the nodal agency to monitor emerging threats

→ NCIIPS to protect threats to the nations's critical information infrastructure (like payment systems, power plants, space networks, ticketing systems for airlines/railways)

→ NCCC as ~~a~~ the coordination agency between various cyber agencies.

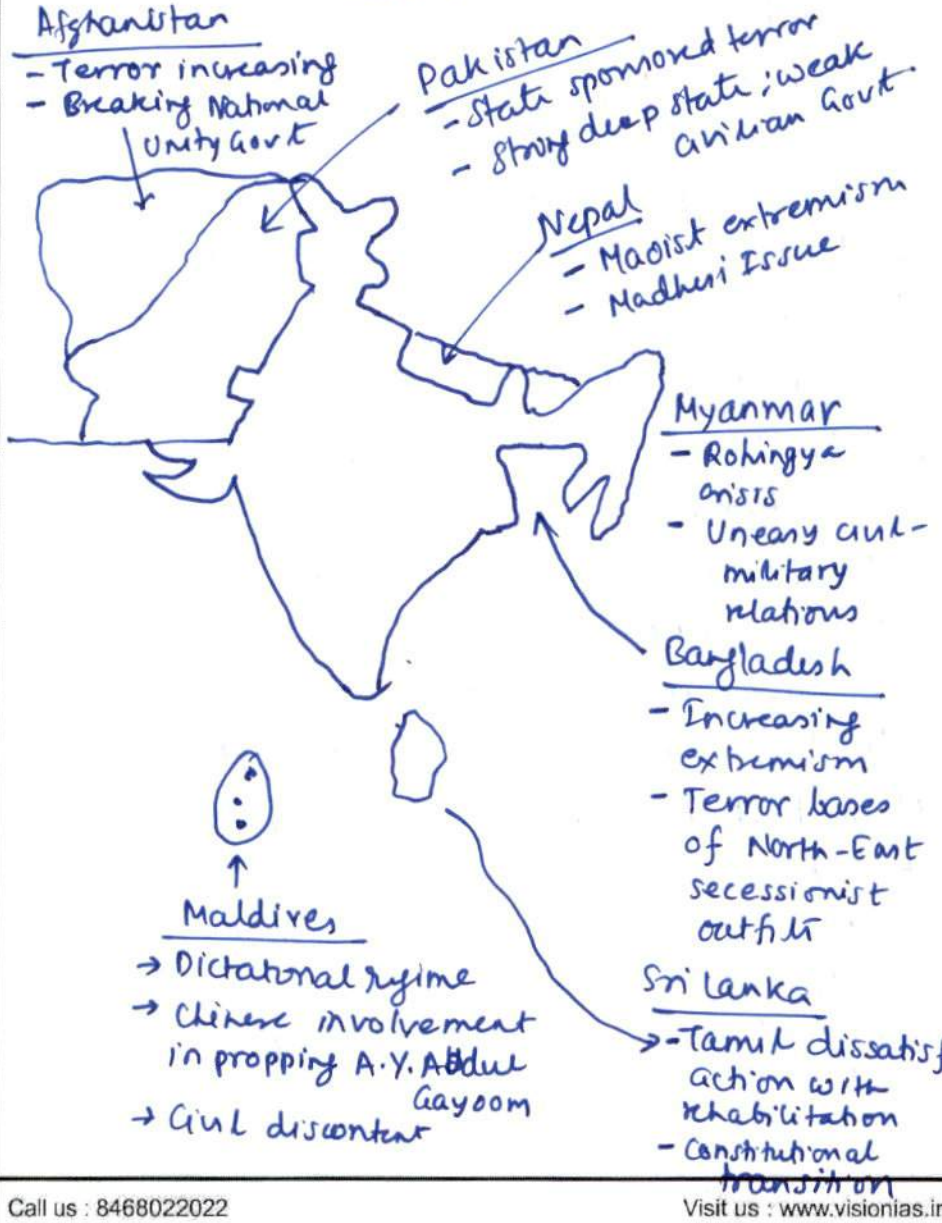
However, India's offensive capabilities as a credible deterrence are limited. The need is to carefully progress on building not only protective, but also offensive capabilities for an all round responce to cyber attacks.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. Analyse the impact that the instability in the wider South Asian region has on India's internal security. What steps can be taken to minimise such impact? **(150 words) 10**

विस्तृत दक्षिण एशियाई क्षेत्र में अस्थिरता का भारत की आंतरिक सुरक्षा पर पड़ने वाले प्रभावों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। ऐसे प्रभावों के अल्पीकरण हेतु क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

The wider south Asian region is characterized by multiple sources of instability as summarized below:-



Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

The increasing instability in the region has pontential to precipitate for India:-

→ Increased infiltration from pakistan, aided by its army & deep state
→ Increase migration (from Bangladesh & Myanmar)
→ Increased Insurgency in North East from Bangladesh & Myanmar based outfit
→ Increased defence expenditure & resource deployment
→ Threats to sea lanes of communication & Bay of Bengal & Arabian sea

Steps needed

→ ~~Solve~~ Prod south Asian states to solve international issues ~~on~~ either bilaterally or using regional fora like SAARC, BIMSTEC etc.
→ Higher humanitarian aid by India
→ Astute diplomacy using all channels
→ UN mediated peace if required
→ ~~Bett~~ Improving surveillance through CIBMS, Border Protection Grid and traditional methods
→ Strong vigil at sea to guard India's sea lanes
→ Use of Technology on all frontiers for better surveillance

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4. Highlighting its mandate, discuss the significance of International Solar Alliance in positioning India to a key global leadership role. **(150 words) 10**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सौर गठबंधन के अधिदेश पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत को एक प्रमुख वैश्विक नेतृत्वकर्ता की भूमिका में स्थान दिलाने में इसके महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

International Solar Alliance (ISA) was launched at the COP21 of UNFCCC at Paris in 2015, with India and France as founding members.

Mandate

- → Scale up solar energy deployment
- → Mobilize Financing
- → Wider technology adoption
- → Technology transfer
- → Clean energy advocacy
- → International Cooperation

Significance in positioning India as a leader in International clean energy arena :-

1) It aims to have 120+ countries between tropics of cancer & capricorn as its members. India can play a key role in bringing them abord
2) It is headquartered in India (Gurugram) - the 1st international body to have its HQ in India

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3) India has provided set-up costs and funding for the 1st 5 years
4) Helps demonstrate India's commitment to meeting its Paris INDCs
5) Provides a platform for India to :-
   - Promote technology transfer from advanced nations
   - Reiterate common but Differentiated Responsibility principle to urge for more financial commitments by developed nations
   - Emerge as a leader in sustainable and ~~the~~ green development advocacy.

The 1st ISA summit hosted in Delhi and its declaration further affirm India's leadership role in International Solar Energy advancement efforts.

India should use ~~its~~ this opportunity and supplement it with domestic and international efforts to make Paris goals as well as SDG 7 (promoting clean energy) a reality.

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5. Despite a strong case for a Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) between India and the European Union (EU), negotiations have been stuck for long owing to multiple factors. Analyse. **(150 words) 10**

भारत और यूरोपीय संघ (EU) के बीच व्यापक आधार वाले व्यापार और निवेश समझौते (ब्रॉडबेस्ड ट्रेड एंड इन्वेस्टमेंट अग्रीमेंट: BTIA) हेतु सुदृढ़ परिस्थितियां होने के बावजूद कई कारकों के चलते वार्ता लम्बे समय से अटकी हुयी है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

~~India~~ EU is one of the biggest trading partners for India, with combined goods trade of more than $100 Billion. To further strengthen the trade and economic relationships, a Broad Based Trade & Investment Agreement (BTIA) is needed to:

- Further boost bilateral trade
- Lower tariff barriers
- Lower non-tariff barriers like technical barriers to trade & sanitary & Phytosanitary (SPS) measures
- To promote higher FDI in India
- To boost sectors exporting to EU
  - textiles - Pharma - MSMEs - Automobiles - horticulture
- To create jobs
- To blunt the impact of higher US tariffs as trade war escalates.

However BTIA negotiations are stuck because:-

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1) EU asking for lower tariffs by India on wine & spirits and luxury cars
2) India demanding Data Protection status from EU that can boost export in both goods & services
3) India ~~so~~ asking for liberal movement of professional under mode 4 of GATS
4) EU asking India to give assurance on India ~~not~~ adopting TRIPS plus standards on Pharma (to sidestep evergreening & compulsory licensing issue)
5) Emerging issues like protectionism in the EU and Brexit make negotiations complicated.

However, for the benefit of both the parties and to further deepen relations, both sides need to agree on mutual give-and-take to make BTIA a reality.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. Accession to the Ashgabat agreement is valuable for connecting India to its extended neighbourhood. What is the Ashgabat Agreement? Assess its significance for India. (150 words) 10

अश्गाबात समझौते में शामिल होना वस्तुतः भारत के लिए अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस से जुड़ने की दृष्टि से मूल्यवान है। अश्गाबात समझौता क्या है? भारत के लिए इसके महत्व का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Ashgabat agreement is a trade and connectivity pact between Central Asian Nations (Azerbaijan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan etc). Its aims include:-

- Building infrastructure like roads, rails, ports to enhance connectivity among members
- Enhanced connectivity with Europe and South Asia
- Faster access to seas, particularly Indian ocean
- Faster movements of goods

India has recently acceded to the Ashgabat agreement. For India it is an opportunity to integrate better with growing central asian economies. For them, ~~it~~ India's accession gives more ~~heft~~ heft to the grouping.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Significance for India

- Higher export to central Asia due to better connectivity
- Commonalities with International North-South Trade Corridor
- Easier energy evacuation from energy-rich central asia (OIL & Gas)
- Alternate route to central asia bypassing pakistan
- Job creation in export sectors
- Better Business-to-Business & People-to People relations due to increased connectivity.
- Aid to economic growth; diversification of exports and energy basket

Thus opportunities for India are immense from the Ashgabat Agreement. India should work together with Ashgabat partners for a faster operationalization of the ground infrastructure.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a natural choice for India to fulfill key foreign policy priorities. In this context, discuss the issues behind hitherto slow progress and the reasons for reinvigorated optimism regarding BIMSTEC.

(150 words) 10

बहु-क्षेत्रीय तकनीकी एवं आर्थिक सहयोग के लिए बंगाल की खाड़ी पहल (BIMSTEC), भारत के लिए अपनी विदेश नीति संबंधी प्रमुख प्राथमिकताओं की पूर्ति हेतु एक स्वाभाविक चयन है। इस संदर्भ में, अब तक हुई धीमी प्रगति के पीछे निहित मुद्दों और BIMSTEC के संबंध में पुनर्जीवित होते आशावाद की चर्चा कीजिए।

BIMSTEC is a regional grouping with India, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand and Bangladesh as its members. A key feature of the grouping is sectoral focus, with multiple sectors assigned to each member country to lead on. It is a natural choice for India to fulfill its key foreign policy priorities because :-

→ With Thailand and Myanmar as members, it can be a gateway to South-East Asia & ASEAN for India

→ Dovetails into India's Act East Policy and opens avenues for economic cooperation with BIMSTEC members as well as ASEAN

→ Protection of sea lanes of communication in Indian Ocean Littoral areas

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Cultural integration and P2P contacts between BIMSTEC members
→ Solving bilateral issues regarding border management
→ Security of India's Eastern Frontiers
→ Diversifying India's energy sources
→ Avenues for investment for Indian firms.

Issues behind slow progress

- → Prominence of SAARC in regional affairs of south Asia
- → Infrequent summits
- → Myanmar & Thailand's preoccupation with ASEAN
- → Insufficient attention by member country's leadership
- → Lack of financial & resource Mobilization

Reasons for Reinvigorated optimism

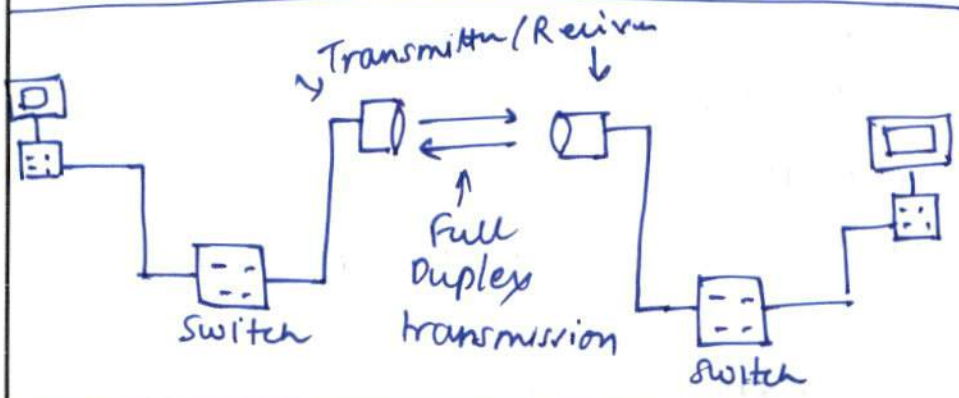
- → Deadlock in SAARC
- → The group (BIMSTEC) can work outside the disruptive attitude of Pakistan
- → Renewed focus on South East Asia through Act East Policy
- → China's growing assertiveness

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. What do you understand by Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) Technology? Critically explain its potential in connecting rural and remote areas in India. **(150 words) 10**

फ्री स्पेस ऑप्टिकल कम्युनिकेशन (FSOC) प्रौद्योगिकी से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत में ग्रामीण और दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों को जोड़ने में इसकी क्षमताओं की आलोचनात्मक व्याख्या कीजिए।

FSOC is a line-of-sight communication technology using light beams or laser. Just like light beams flow in fibre in fibre-optic communication, they flow in space in FSOC.



Key Features

- → Faster than fiber optic transmission
- → low error rate in clear weather
- → ~~low~~ No security/interception issue
- → low deployment cost
- → Full Duplex transmission (transmitting & receiving at the same time)
- → Line-of-sight technology; there should be no hamers in between

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

It has immense potential in connecting rural areas because :-

→ National Open Fibre Network (NFON) can not penetrate far flung areas due to topographical difficulties

→ Low cost deployment

→ High channel bandwidth further reduces per person cost

→ Technology readily available (eg Google deploying 2000 FSOC devices in Andhra Pradesh)

⇒ However some practical difficulties exist

→ Bad weather, birds, insects etc. in the transmission medium affect the transmission

→ High error rate in hazy, cloudy atmosphere

→ Error correction equipment needed

→ Wireless mobile towers of high power (4G) are a credible alternative

→ India needs to rely on imports

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. What are Orphan Drugs? Examine the significance of putting in place a policy framework for such drugs in a developing country such as India.

(150 words) 10

ऑर्फन ड्रग्स क्या हैं? भारत जैसे एक विकासशील देश में ऐसी दवाओं हेतु एक नीतिगत ढांचा स्थापित करने के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Orphan drugs are those drugs that promise cures for rare diseases.

Since these diseases are rare,

- Wide market does not exist
- Pharma firms do not want to fund the R&D
- The disease-afflicted persons may not have high purchasing power (eg sickle cell anaemia in tribals of Central India)
- The researchers have little incentive to undertake intensive research in such diseases and in ~~find~~ discovering 'orphan drugs'

Therefore multilateral development agencies (like WHO, UNDP), rich foundations, and Governments grant 'orphan drug' status to such drugs and provide funding support.

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Eg US govt. recently granted orphan drug status to 'Yescarta Gene Therapy' to cure B-cell lymphoma.

Significance of putting such a policy in Place in India

- → Will promote research in rare diseases
- → Commercialization of drugs through govt. support
- → Economic return on investment for pharma companies
- → A blessing for people suffering for such diseases
- → Affirmation of the state's role to protect the health of all citizens (Article 47 of constitution)
- → Leadership role in rare diseases research for India.

India should therefore develop a Policy framework on supporting orphan drugs.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Discuss the obstacles in women's access to science education in India and also suggest remedial measures to overcome these obstacles.

(150 words) 10

भारत में विज्ञान की शिक्षा तक महिलाओं की पहुंच के मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए और इन बाधाओं को दूर करने के लिए उपचारात्मक उपाय भी सुझाइए।

While India is making rapid strides in bridging gender gap in education (as indicated by higher Gross Enrolment ratios), the gender gap in science remains immense.

Obstacles in women's access to science education in India

- Prejudices, biases and gender stereotypes perpetuate the notion of gender-appropriate careers for men and women
- Science and Technology not considered gender appropriate for women by a wide section of society
- Lack of role models
- Absence of encouragement
- Lack of focused schemes
- Long gestation period in science-based research careers
- Lack of jobs in pure-science field

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- Familial responsibilities like marriage, childbirth, & caregiving to children leading to career breaks.

Remedial Measures

- Breaking stereotypes by promoting successful women in science (eg Kalpana Chawla)
- Science promotion schemes (eg KIRAN, CURIE, UDAAN)
- Liberal research grants and sabbatical for women scientists
- Flexible working environment
- Increasing enrolment through extra-numerary seats in higher education institutes
- Awareness and communication directed at parents to promote women taking science

Thus a multi-pronged strategy is needed involving women, parents, government & societal opinion leaders.

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11. Giving examples, elaborate how India's approach to becoming a net security provider in the Indian Ocean Region is taking shape. What are the challenges and opportunities associated with this approach? **(250 words) 15**

उदाहरण देते हुए, सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए कि किस प्रकार हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में वास्तविक सुरक्षा प्रदाता (नेट सिक्यूरिटी प्रोवाइडर) बनने का भारत का दृष्टिकोण आकार ले रहा है। इस दृष्टिकोण से संबद्ध चुनौतियां एवं अवसर क्या हैं?

India's geographic position lies at the very heart and centre of the Indian Ocean region. Indian Ocean Region is vital for India because :-

→ 90% of India's foreign trade flows through it

→ India has a 7,517 km long coastline

→ Indian ocean Region (IOR) faces many security challenges

→ Presence of Piracy (eg off the coast of Africa)

→ Unstable regions (somalia, maldives)

→ China's assertive stance due to its Maritime Silk Road initiative and building military bases under the garb of infrastructure

~~How~~ These realities along with India's ~~might~~ Naval might place it as a strong player ~~to~~ ~~and~~ as a

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net security provider in the IOR.
Following examples substantiate it

- Gulf countries like Saudi Arabia and UAE have urged India to take up the role of net security provider
- Indian warships have thwarted multiple piracy attempts in northern arabian sea
- India has secured multiple port accesses in IOR
  - Duqm in Oman
  - Changi in Singapore
  - logistics exchange with France and USA (LEMOA)
- India is also building naval infrastructure in Mauritius (Agalya) and Seychelles (Assumption)
- India is playing an active role in guarding sea lanes of communication and in advocating freedom of navigation in high seas.

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Challenges

→ China's securing multiple naval bases (Gwadar, Djibouti, Hambantota, Coco Islands) and playing a destabilizing role in IOR
→ Recent roadblocks in infrastructure development plans in Mauritius & Seychelles
→ Souring relations with Maldives
→ IOR is vast and Indian Navy has multiple other priorities like infiltration control
→ Lack of submarines and aircraft carriers in large numbers
- Lack of surveillance facilities & listening posts

Opportunities

→ Many countries suspicious of China's motives
→ Oil trade important for the Gulf that lies in India's close vicinity and India can play ~~and~~ an important role in guarding the lanes in the gulf area
→ Geostrategic choke points (Malacca, Hormuz straits etc.) are close to India
→ India seen as a neutral & dependable partner.

Thus opportunities are immense for India if it can overcome immediate challenges through astute diplomacy.

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12. The UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) has pitched for the need of an integrated approach in order to address the difficulties in preventing, detecting, investigating and prosecuting Transnational Organised Crimes (TOC). Elaborating on these difficulties, discuss how an integrated approach can help in tackling TOCs. **(250 words) 15**

पार-राष्ट्रीय संगठित अपराधों (ट्रांसनेशनल ऑर्गनाइज्ड क्राइम्स: TOCs) को रोकने, पता लगाने, जाँच करने और अभियोजित करने में आने वाली कठिनाइयों से निपटने के लिए UNODC (यूनाइटेड नेशंस ऑफिस ऑन ड्रग एंड क्राइम्स) ने एक एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया है। इन कठिनाइयों का सविस्तार वर्णन करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि किस तरह एक एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण से TOCs से निपटने में सहायता मिल सकती है।

* Organized crimes are those that are committed by groups with a corporate-like structure, with profit as the key motive. Transnational organized crimes (TOC) are those organized crimes (OCs) which span multiple countries. For example

→ Transnational traffic in
- drugs - arms & ammunition
- human beings for sex trade or organ trade - wildlife trade

→ Circulating counterfeit currency
→ International extortion rings
→ Trade in ~~contraband~~ counterfeit goods.

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For controlling TOC, an integrated approach is needed because:-

→ actors are present in multiple jurisdictions
→ National laws are often different

The integrated approach must include

→ Cooperation between nations
→ Harmonization of national laws
→ Utmost attention by all member countries
→ Regional agreements to control TOC
→ Similar definition of TOC across the regional grouping
→ An umbrella act to ~~prosecu~~ prosecute all TOCs

However practical debficulties arise because

→ Not all countries are signatory to UN's TOC convention
→ National laws are different
→ Extradition treaties are often not in place

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→ Effective border control requires cooperation of both countries
→ Porous boundaries in South & South East Asia often aid the free movement of perpetrators of TOC
→ Investigative apparatus in not equally strong in all countries
→ Prosecution often required full cooperation on evidence for other countries.

Thus an integrated approach can help:-
→ To bring perpatrators to quick justice
→ Stop flow of illegally trafficked goods, animals & human beings across borders
→ Protect human & animal rights
→ Check trans boundary movement of criminals
→ Create an atmosphere of peace, free of violence

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13. Highlighting the need for SMART policing in India, suggest some administrative, legislative and technological reforms in order to realize this vision. (250 words) 15

भारत में SMART पुलिसिंग की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इस दृष्टि को साकार करने के लिए कुछ प्रशासनिक, विधायी और तकनीकी सुधारों का सुझाव दीजिए।

It is said that Indian Police relies on outdated laws, has feudalistic setup, is tardy in law enforcement and status-quoist in nature. To bring a paradigm shift in India's policing, PM Shri Modi has suggested the police be be SMART, ie

S → strict & yet sensitive
M → Modern and Mobile
A → Alert and Accountable
R → Responsible and responsive
T → Techno savvy and Trained.

However, SMART policing will need multiple reforms to realize the PM's vision.

Administrative Reforms

→ Providing security of tenure to all operational posts
→ separation of law enfircement and investigative functions

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→ Expedious filling of vacant posts (22% of sanctioned posts vacant)
→ Rationalizing working hours and workloads of policemen
→ Better infrastructural facilities like houses, conveyance
→ ~~lower~~ NO political interference in functioning

Legislative Reforms

→ Comprehensive ~~xx~~ review and amendment in British era Police Act, 1861
→ Changes in Indian Evidence Act to make it fine-tuned to modern realities of a digital society
→ Reforms in IPC and CRPC as suggested by the Malimath committee
  → Social and correctional codes for small offences (0-3 years punishment) with sentences on Community ~~Social~~ service
  → Increasing the number of Bailable

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and non-cognizable offences

Technological Reforms

→ Quick operationalization of CCTNS
→ More forensic labs
→ Training in forensics, cyber crimes and modern ballistics
→ Use of technology ~~for~~ in line with Digital India vision (in filing FIRs, theft reports, in obtaining character certificates, antecedent verification)
→ Training on evidence gathering and analysis using modern means
→ Training on effective use of social media for citizen outreach.

Thus a comprehensive reform package is needed to make the police a SMART FORCE

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. Discuss the reasons behind private sector playing a merely peripheral role in defence manufacturing in India. Also, explain how the Draft Defence Production Policy, 2018 seeks to augment private sector participation in defence manufacturing in India. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में रक्षा विनिर्माण के क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्रक द्वारा अत्यंत गौण भूमिका निभाने के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों की चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, व्याख्या कीजिए कि किस प्रकार ड्राफ्ट डिफेंस प्रोडक्शन पॉलिसी, 2018 (रक्षा उत्पादन नीति मसौदा, 2018) भारत में रक्षा विनिर्माण के क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्रक की भागीदारी बढ़ाना चाहती है।

India's defence manufacturing is characterized by the dominance of Ordnance Factory Boards (OFB), Defence PSUs and Central Research Laboratories in defence research & manufacturing. So far the role of private sector has been at best peripheral because -

→ Reserving of certain sectors for public sector
→ Strict and bureaucratic licensing regime
→ Bureaucrats on OFB & DPSU boards, tilting balance in their favour on winning contracts
→ a mistrust of private sectors capability & readiness to play this critical role

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Lack of Private sector R&D
→ Reliance on 'turnkey purchases' from foreign nations for large systems like aircraft carriers
→ long drawn out contract process
→ Lack of PPP templates in Defence Production, with clear demarcation of roles for public and private parties
→ Lack of lab-to-Plant linkages for commercialization of ~~[illegible]~~ high-potential private sector ideas

Draft Defence Production Policy 2018

aims to :-

→ Provide more licenses for private sectors, opening multiple new fields
→ Promote MSMEs as well as other private sector firms through offset policies
→ Reserve certain projects only for MSMEs and start-ups
→ Further liberalize MAKE-II procedure under Defence Procurement Policy 2016

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→ Build credible private sector partners in multiple platforms

The policy will

→ By setting clear export and manufacturing targets, ~~and~~ ~~these~~ ~~boost~~ boost both public and private sector defence manufacturing

→ Boost IP protection regime in India, and it will also act as an assurance for private sector and their foreign partners

→ The offsets will promote defence industry participation by MSMEs and startups and will help build supply chains

→ Help Indian armed forces achieve reasonable self-sufficiency in defence production.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. While India and Russia have enjoyed good relations since the Soviet era, relying on the past may not be enough to deal with shift in the relationship in light of the rapidly evolving geopolitical realities. Comment.

(250 words) 15

यद्यपि सोवियत युग से ही भारत और रूस के संबंध मधुर रहे हैं, तथापि अतीत पर निर्भरता तेज़ी से विकसित होती भू-राजनीतिक वास्तविकताओं के प्रकाश में, संबंधों में आये बदलाव से निपटने हेतु पर्याप्त नहीं भी हो सकती हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Russia has been India's all weather partner right since the soviet era. In particular its contribution is seen in

→ Helping set up steel plants
→ ~~DRDO~~ In setting some older IITs
→ In building nuclear power plants (eg Koodankulam)
→ In supplying critical defence equipment (eg Mig 29, Su 30MKI, ~~KRI~~ Submarines, aircraft carriers like admiral Gorskov)
→ Training Indian scientists in Russia in critical fields like defence, technology.

However, Geopolitical Realities in the recent years have changed →

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Cold war is over, and countries no longer see value in allying ~~in~~ and aligning with one power

→ The current world is multipolar, with south asia emerging as a separate pole

→ Economic factors like foreign trade and FDI are becoming increasingly important in bilateral relations

→ One country cannot provide best military equipment in all areas of defence

→ Countries are aiming for self reliance in technology rather than buying them from foreign powers.

In Russia's case particularly, India's weaning of relations is also due to

- → Russia's growing relations with China
- → Its engagement with Pakistan, including military exercises

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→ India's need to search for more partners in countering China (eg Quad → US, Japan, Australia)

→ Looking for best deals in defence arena, rather ~~that~~ than what Russia has to offer (eg Rafael)

→ Building multiple sources of supply (eg Israel, USA, France)

Moreover, in future India ~~too~~ wants to be credible global power, a net security provider and an exporter of key defence systems and technologies to friendly nations. Thus hard ~~go~~ geopolitical realities are behind India's perceived move away from Russia.

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16. In what ways has the engagement between India and its diaspora evolved over the years? What role can the Indian diaspora play in furthering and shaping India's foreign policy goals? **(250 words) 15**

भारत और इसके डायस्पोरा के बीच सहभागिता बीते वर्षों के दौरान किस तरह विकसित हुई हैं? भारत की विदेशी नीति के लक्ष्यों को आगे बढ़ाने और आकार देने में भारतीय डायस्पोरा क्या भूमिका निभा सकते हैं?

India's diaspora has played a relatively passive role in India's foreign policy ~~over~~ ~~after~~ in the first few decades after independence. ~~In the late 2 de~~ It was characterized by

- → Focus on remittances as a means of boosting foreign exchange reserves
- → Source of Tourism earnings
- → Limited outreach
- → Low involvement of consulates in engaging with diaspora
- → Untapped potential as India's unofficial ambassadors.

The Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas, started 2 decades back was a

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turning point in the evolution of engagement with diaspora.

The new engagement is characterized by

- Periodic conferences providing people-to-people and govt-to-diaspora contact (eg annual Pravasi Bharatiya Divas)
- Diaspora as a key element of India's soft power and ambassadors of India's culture
- Encouraging diaspora to invest in India (Make in India)
- Schemes ~~to~~ for greater involvement of diaspora in research in science and technology (GIAN, Ramanujan Fellowship)
- Indian Embassies & consulates engaging with local diaspora
- Active assistance to NRIs/PIOs

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in difficult circumstances, eg those stuck in war

Diaspora can play the following role in shaping India's foreign policy goals

- → In economic engagement with their countries through FDI policy change advocacy
- → In technical collaboration
- → In promoting & exuding India's soft power
- → Building awareness about India's emerging role as a responsible emerging power
- → Highlighting India's role in promoting regional peace & in countering terror
- → Explaining the essence of India's cultural values to foreigners
- → In promoting tourism

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17. Sluggish progress of the Doha round signals that the WTO is proving to be ineffective in promoting free trade. Identifying the factors behind this, comment on the relevance of WTO in present context. (250 words) 15

दोहा दौर की धीमी प्रगति संकेत करती है कि WTO, मुक्त व्यापार को प्रोत्साहित करने में अप्रभावी सिद्ध हो रहा है। इसके पीछे उत्तरदायी कारकों की पहचान करते हुए, वर्तमान संदर्भ में WTO की प्रासंगिकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Doha Round of talks was launched by the WTO in 2001 with a set agenda, the 'Doha Development Agenda' (DDA) to further promote ~~trade~~ world trade. The aims were:

- Reducing tariff & non-tariff barriers
- Granting greater access to least developing countries at low or no duties
- Further increasing market access ~~to~~ of developing countries
- Review of trade-distorting subsidies.

However, the ~~Bali~~ Nairobi stalemate shows that WTO is

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proving ineffective in promoting free trade.

Reasons behind this :-

- Consensus model of WTO, due to which even one vociferous country (eg USA) can block progress
- Lack of voice of developing nations
- Bureaucratic and long-drawn dispute resolution mechanism
- Focus has remained on Goods trade, while TRIPS reforms that would have favoured service exporting countries like India have not taken place
- Lack of enforcement power to make sure its decisions are implemented
- Perception that WTO works for developed countries only

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Relevance of WTO in present context

Pro-WTO

- It can act as a global watchdog of world trade
- Forum to promote cooperation in trade issues
- Can help blunt protectionist demands
- Critical for LDCs to benefit from trade

Anti-WTO

- The current world is multipolar
- Regional agreements like (TPP11, RCEP)
- 17-year long Doha Round in itself is an example of its irrelevence.

However, there is need to bring systemic reforms in WTO and reform its working and decision making process rather than dismantling it

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18. India's engagement with its extended neighbourhood in West Asia has evolved into a 'Look West' approach in recent times. However, multiple faultlines in this volatile region require a balancing act on the part of India. Discuss. (250 words) 15

पश्चिम एशिया में अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस के साथ भारत की सहभागिता हाल के दिनों में 'लुक वेस्ट' दृष्टिकोण के रूप में विकसित हुई है। हालांकि, इस अस्थिर क्षेत्र में उपस्थित कई फॉल्टलाइन्स भारत की ओर से एक संतुलनकारी कार्यवाही की मांग करते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

India has adopted a look west approach to West Asia due to its growing significance for India.

- → as a supplier of a large part of its energy needs (2/3rd)
- → as a source of remittances sent back of NRIs in West Asia ($40BN)
- → Close historical and cultural linkages
- → Security of Indian Trade passing through Red Sea and Persian Gulf
- → As a means to access Europe and Central Asia for India (INSTC & Ashgabat Agreements)

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However, multiple faultlines in the region are present :-

→ Ethnic conflict between Shia and Sunni

→ Geopolitical Rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia

→ Civil war in Yemen

→ Israel-~~Pala~~ Arab Relations over ~~Arab~~ Palestin issue

→ Foreign involvement (eg USA in IRAQ)

→ Iran's nuclear programme & suspecion of Saudi Arabia and Israel about the same.

Thus India needs to particularly balance its relations with the 3 axes of ~~middt~~ West ~~asia~~ Asia Geopolitics :-

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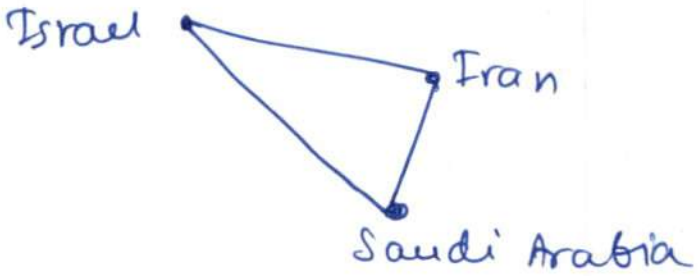

Thus a liberated, nuanced approach based upon India's security and economic needs is needed. All countries of the region are important for India, and India needs to seperately pursue involvement with each country, without hurting its geo-political, religious or ethnic sensibilities.

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19. The rapid diffusion of Artificial Intelligence begets unique opportunities and challenges for India. Discuss. What can be done to address these challenges? **(250 words) 15**

आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता) का तीव्र प्रसार, भारत के लिए विशिष्ट अवसर और चुनौतियां उत्पन्न करता है। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है?

Artificial Intelligence is the display of human-like cognitive abilities by computer (eg decision making, learning, perceiving, memory). AI has emerged as a key technology enabler and its emergence begets unique opportunities for India

- → Leadership in AI research
- → Building an AI startup ecosystem
- → Using AI in
  - → education
  - → Healthcare
  - → Autonomous vehicles
  - → Smart cities
- Using AI for better delivery of public services

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However, challenges abound

- → Low number of researchers & low patent base
- → Lack of government schemes and grants
- → AI hinges on the presence of a data storage infrastructure on a large scale, that lacks in India
- → Lack of laboratory to firm linkage for commercialization of IP
- → Weak IP protection regime
- → Lack of training / skilling facilities in AI

To address these challenges :-

- → Open AI centres of excellence in universities like China is doing (NITI suggestion)
- → Grants to scientists doing AI research

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ Promoting some grand AI challenges with attractive rewards (NITI suggestion)

→ Evolving data privacy ~~law~~ legal & administrative structure

→ Collaboration with leading countries in AI (US, Japan, Israel)

→ Exchange programmes for researchers.

These steps can ensure a faster adoption of AI in India.

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20. Water shortage in India has been sought to be addressed through various policy and technological interventions. Explain. Also, examine the benefits of desalination technology and the costs associated with it. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में विभिन्न नीतिगत और तकनीकी उपायों के माध्यम से जल की कमी की समस्या का समाधान करने के प्रयास किए जाते रहे हैं। व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, विलवणीकरण प्रौद्योगिकी के लाभों एवं इससे संबद्ध लागतों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Policy Interventions

- Model Groundwater Bill
- Draft Framework Water Bill
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana
  - Expediting accelerated irrigation benefits projects
  - Increasing on-field water use efficiency
- Mandatory groundwater recharge wells in some cities
- Pricing of water as a commodity with escalating user charges (depending upon usage)
- National Water Mission

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Technological Interventions

- → Cloud seeding on an experimental basis
- → Inter-basin water transfer (eg Polavaram dam)
- → watershed development – Neeranchal Programme
- → National water informatics centre (for water ~~use~~ availability information on real time)
- → Aquifer mapping
- → Bunds, Checkdams etc.

Benefits of Desalination tech

- → Clean, pollution free water
- → Can solve drinking water shortage
- → Especially useful for island nations

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

- 24x7 operation
- Unlimited raw material in coastal areas (saline water)

Costs

- Prohibitive costs
- Costs to obtain technology
- High maintenance costs in reverse-osmosis based plants